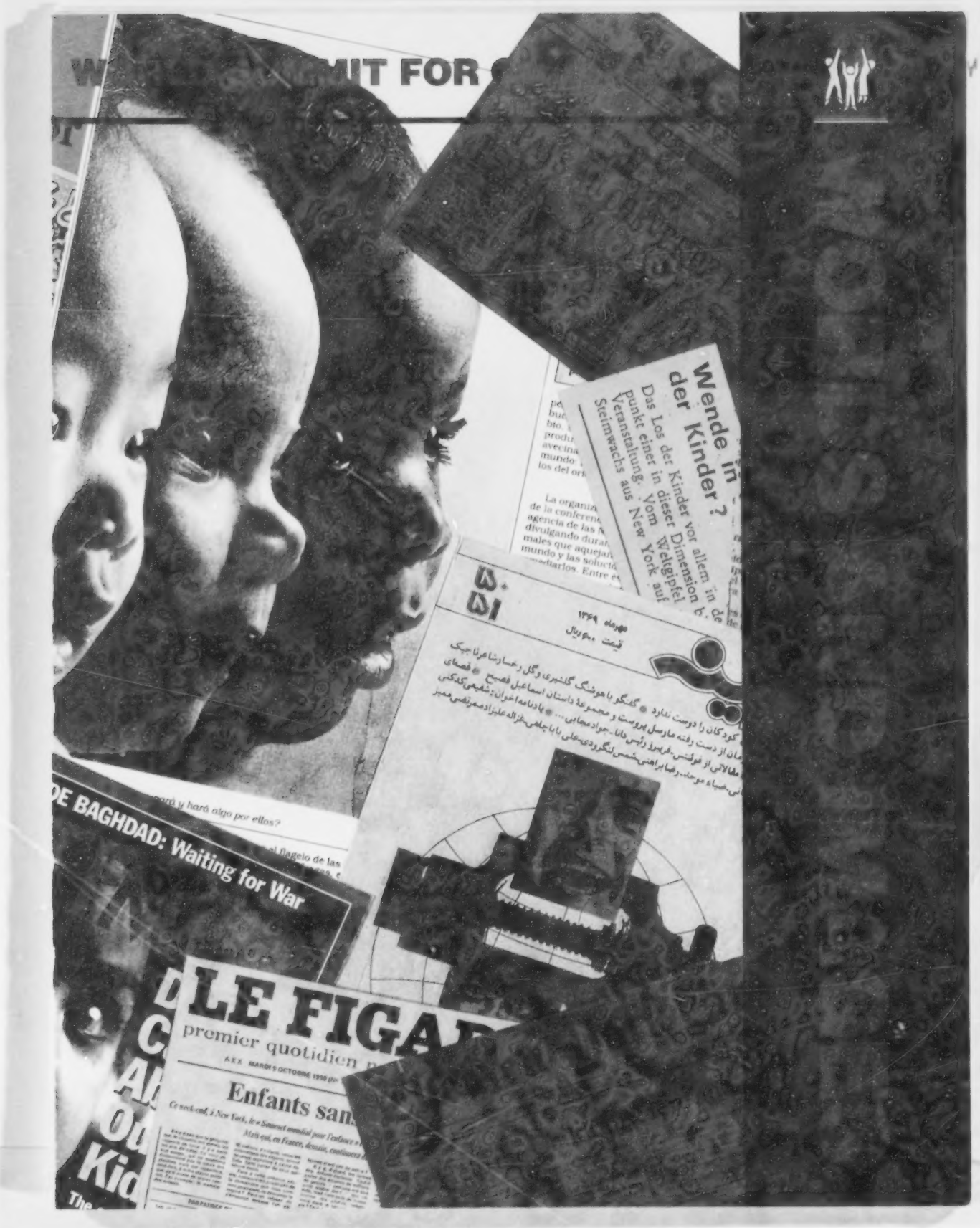
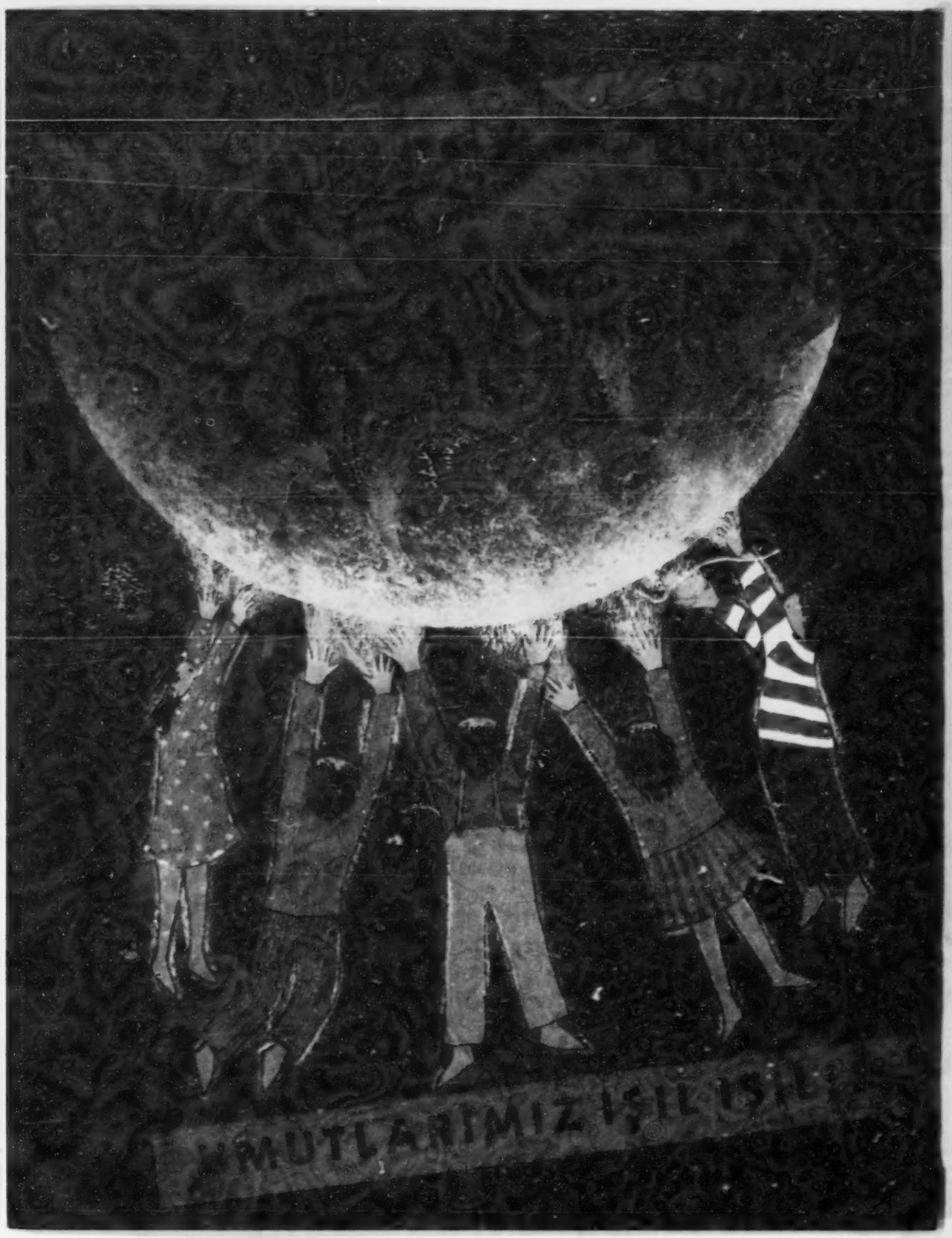

Wende in
der Kinder?
Das Los der Kinder
Veranstaltung.
Steinwachs aus
Enfants sans
premier quotidien
DE BAGHDAD: Waiting for War

WORDS AND IMAGES

WORLD SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN

UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK
SEPTEMBER 30, 1990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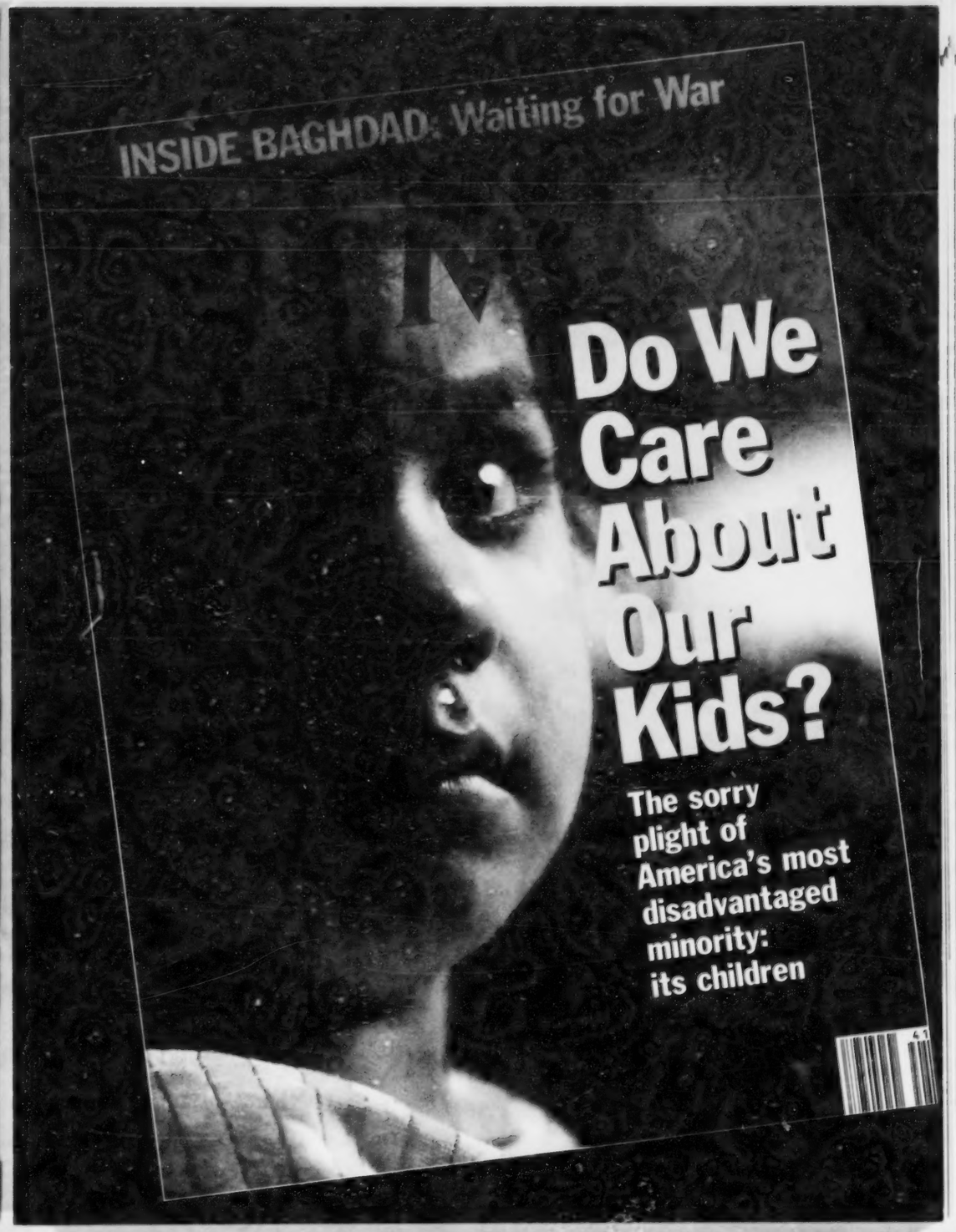
INSIDE BAGHDAD: Waiting for War
Do We Care About Our Kids?
The sorry plight of America's most disadvantaged minority: its children

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Left: *Dogan Kardes*
Turkey

WORLD SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN
WORDS AND IMAGES

READEX
FICHE

The World Summit for Children: Words and Images was produced by the Division of Information, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). The newspaper and magazine clippings and television images were provided by UNICEF field offices and National Committees worldwide.

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
Three United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017

unicef
United Nations Children's Fund

Design by I. CLAVDIA, Inc., New York.

The views expressed in the articles reproduced in this book are not necessarily those of UNICEF.

THE SILENCE HAS BEEN BROKEN

UNICEF coined the term 'silent emergency' several years ago to draw the world's attention to the daily global death toll of 40,000 children, mainly from preventable diseases. Coverage of child victims of the 'loud emergencies' — usually earthquakes or famines — would grip people's awareness for a few days or weeks, but the tragedy of 100 million children who could not grow up normally in mind or body because they were malnourished went virtually unnoticed.

I would like to believe that the World Summit for Children changed all that. For the first time, during the weeks surrounding the event which took place at UN Headquarters 29-30 September 1990, the international media focused their spotlight on children. The coverage was as unprecedented as the meeting itself, which was called by the leaders of Canada, Egypt, Mali, Mexico, Pakistan and Sweden.

The extraordinary amount of attention given to the Summit came as no surprise. After all, it was big news that 71 heads of State or Government — from North, South, East and West — joined by senior delegations from 88 other countries, chose to put aside their differences and come together in the middle of the Gulf crisis to discuss children. Thousands of journalists from every corner of the globe flocked to New York to cover this largest meeting of world leaders ever held.

But what was surprising, and deeply gratifying to UNICEF, was the fact that the media went far beyond reporting on the event, extending their coverage to the broad range of substantive issues relating to children. In-depth, often critical and soul-searching, investigative stories about children appeared in the most important newspapers and news magazines, on television and radio, of developed and developing nations alike. Never has there been so much attention paid to the subjects of child survival, protection and development.

What is more, the media provided substantial coverage of the grass-roots action campaigns that led up to and laid the foundation for the Summit. Stories about the

Left: *Time*
United States of America

Right: *Time International*
United States of America

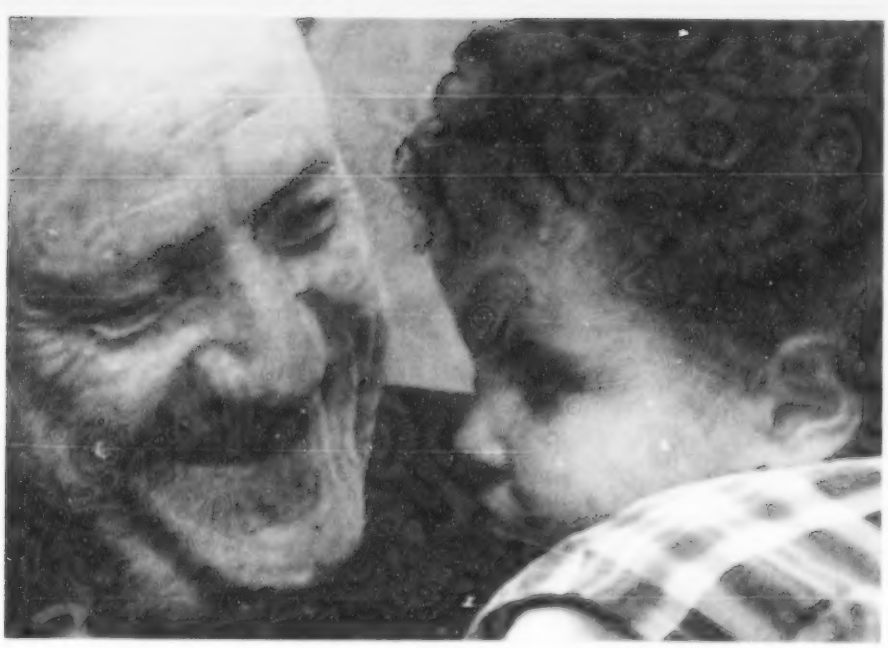
million candles lit for children at vigils organized by non-governmental organizations and community groups worldwide the week before the Summit sent a reinforcing message to the leaders then preparing to travel to New York. During those two weeks, reading the newspapers and magazines, watching television and listening to the radio, one had the feeling that the world had finally gotten its priorities straight and that a genuine social movement for children had begun to take shape.

For it will take nothing short of precisely such a movement — like the historical movements against slavery, colonialism, apartheid or environmental degradation — to fulfil the promise of the World Summit for Children. The unprecedented political consensus demonstrated by the world leaders must now be translated into action to meet the practical and specific goals adopted to save at least 50 million children's lives over the next decade and improve the lives of many millions more. This is a job for families and Governments, international agencies and communities, individuals and non-governmental organizations. The immense power of the mass media to inform, educate and monitor progress and failure to carry out commitments for children can create awareness and thus help bring about the changes required to put children first.

The silence has been broken. UNICEF is now confident that the world's media will continue to focus on children and their needs.

James P. Grant

James P. Grant
Executive Director



ABC TV
United States of America

Shameful Bequests to The Next Generation

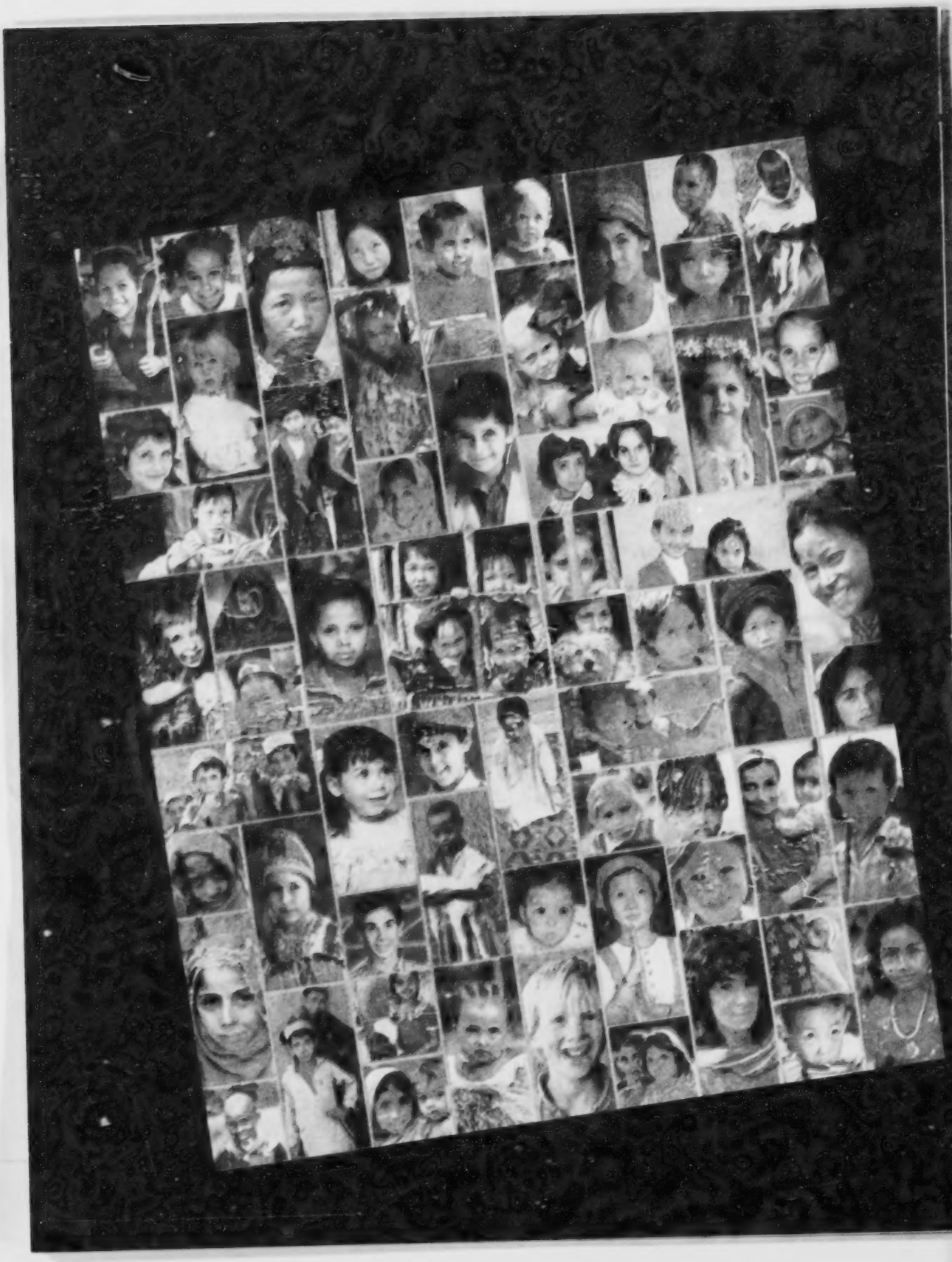
Time
United States of America

Bu dünya çocukların değil

Nokta
Turkey

Laissez-nous être des enfants !

L'Express
France



THEIR TIME HAS COME

THE MOOD was sombre, serious, and yet there was an unmistakable atmosphere of hope on that one day in September, perhaps the most momentous day ever for children around the world — 30 September 1990.

As the World Summit for Children convened at the United Nations in New York, one idea — changing the conditions of life for children — was on the minds of all 71 presidents, prime ministers and monarchs.

Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, co-chairman of the Summit, called it making "a better world for children". Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson of Sweden, one of the six initiators of the Summit, spoke of "a new era . . . a new commitment". Another initiator, President Carlos Salinas de Gortari of Mexico, talked of a "new age" and "new times" and concluded with a plea for the leaders to "put a new look on the faces of the world's children".

For Robert Mugabe, President of Zimbabwe, the Summit represented a "new level of consciousness and a new dedication to the needs of the child". Italian Prime Minister Guilio Andreotti spoke of "a new solidarity" giving "life to a united and determined world coalition". And President Mammoon Abdul Gayoom of the Maldives saw the Summit as a commitment to achieve a "new vision" for children.

James P. Grant, Executive Director of UNICEF, said simply, "their time has come". For the world's media, also, the horrendous plight of children was an idea whose time had come. Newspapers and magazines, radio and television reported this new-found global unity of purpose for children and relayed it to billions of readers, viewers and listeners around the world. *The World Summit for Children: Words and Images* demonstrates the power of this idea through glimpses of the unprecedented coverage of children's issues undertaken by print and broadcast media

Small World

A big meeting about kids

The World Summit for children

There's an important event for kids happening this weekend.

It's called the World Summit for Children, and it's in New York, at the United Nations.

There, for the first time, world leaders are meeting to talk about solving the problems that face children in countries around the world.

Kids who live in poor, developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America especially need help. It's estimated that 40,000 kids in developing countries die every day. Many die from diseases that could have been prevented by spending less than a dollar on health care for each child.

Today, Small World looks at some of the issues that are really important to children everywhere.

Left: *The Hankook Ilbo*
Republic of Korea

Right: *The Edmonton Sunday Journal*
Canada

everywhere before, during and after the 29-30 September Summit.

Perhaps the headlines said it best. "Banishing our children's tears", said *Gente* in Santo Domingo. In Paris, *Le Monde* chose to cast children in the image of the family, saying: "The world at the bedside of sick children". *El Espectador* of Bogotá spoke of the issue in terms of hope: "The Dream and the Awakening". *UnoMasUno* in Mexico City put the issue in the form of a demand: "Peace, development and justice must become a world obsession".

On its cover, *Time International* posed the question that went to the heart of the Summit: "Children Without Hope — Does Anybody Care?"

On 30 September 1990, the leaders responded loud and clear with a World Declaration and a 10-point Plan of Action that set attainable goals for children for the last decade of the 20th century. Many newspapers carried excerpts of the Declaration and the speeches of leaders.

For the first time, most of the world agreed to take concrete actions to improve the condition of Earth's youngest inhabitants. That alone made this one day in September momentous, providing vast potential to make the world a better place for children.

The outpouring of media interest in children brought about by the World Summit was truly astounding. The idea of those in power setting aside time for the powerless caught on. Few meetings at the United Nations have ever brought such sustained reporting.

Revista de Revistas
Mexico

The coverage, at first a trickle, became a flood as thousands of journalists flocked to New York in the days before the Summit. It became clear that a summit meeting solely devoted to children had struck a responsive chord with the media. That was a far cry from the reaction a few months earlier, especially when the leaders of Canada, Egypt, Mali, Mexico, Pakistan and Sweden first proposed in late 1989 that such a Summit be held and asked UNICEF to help organize it. At that time, the usual reaction was doubt that many leaders would attend and cynicism that a weekend gathering could accomplish anything significant for children.

Perhaps it was a case of the innocence of children and the growing awareness of the terrible but unnecessary plight of so many millions that overcame the cynicism. Slowly, the statistics that are so familiar to child-survival specialists, particularly that 40,000 children die each day around the world from readily preventable causes, took hold with the media and the public. Then the media began to tune in to the message of UNICEF that the world now has the technology, the communications capacity — and the money — to be able to save most of these children and that what was needed was the political will to do so. Finally, the largest gathering of world leaders in history broke down the last doubts. And there were numerous events, with colourful involvement of children, that helped to build a crescendo of interest culminating on the weekend of 29-30 September.

FEIFFER
FEIFFER
U.N. SUMMIT ON CHILDREN
DELEGATES FLYING IN FROM ALL OVER
OUTRAGED OVER OUR POVERTY, OUR SUFFERING, OUR HUNGER.
OUR DISEASES OUR DYING
GUYS SPEECHES ON TV USING WORDS LIKE "GENOCIDE" AND "HOLOCAUST."
PASSING RESOLUTIONS ON "THE YEAR OF THE CHILDREN" "THE DECADE OF THE CHILDREN."
"THE CRUSADE FOR THE CHILDREN."
MARKETS, BUDGETS, LOCAL WARS, TRADE
PRETTY SOON GUYS GO HOME TO THEIR REAL WORLDS.
IF WE COULD EAT CAMERAS...

The interest was not just in the developing world, where UNICEF has long found the media receptive. It was not just in the industrialized world, which has become blasé about the problems of the developing countries. Like the Summit, the interest of the media was universal, ranging from renowned publications and networks in Europe and North America to newsletters with minuscule circulations in countries of just a few million population, from general circulation publications to ones of specialized interest.

Suddenly, children became front-page, prime-time news worldwide. Nor was it simply the leaders or the professional journalists who were struck by the Summit. Numerous publications of volunteer and non-governmental organizations ran articles on the meeting and the surrounding events.

Candlelight vigils around the world a week before the Summit provided major opportunities for average people to get involved. An American house-

Right *San Francisco Chronicle*
United States of America

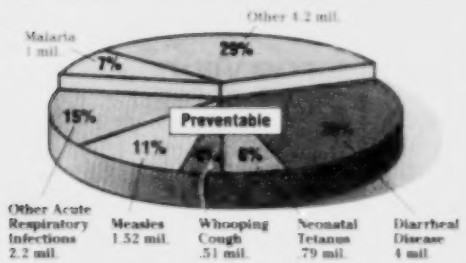
INTERNATIONAL

Children's Crusade

The World Summit for Children brought more than 70 heads of state to the United Nations last weekend, the largest gathering ever of world leaders. But organizers hope the meeting will produce more than just another opportunity for politicians to look good on television and pronounce themselves concerned with the fate of youngsters. Children's advocates say the time has come for deeds, not simply more words. Indeed, the problems of children have never been as acute—and the solutions as frustratingly possible—in both industrialized countries and the developing world. Here's a brief look at the vital statistics that shape the lives of youngsters around the world.

PETER CHARLESWORTH—JB PICTURES

Call to action: *Girl in a Thai village*



■Every day, 40,000 children under the age of 5 die in developing countries. The majority could be saved at very little cost.

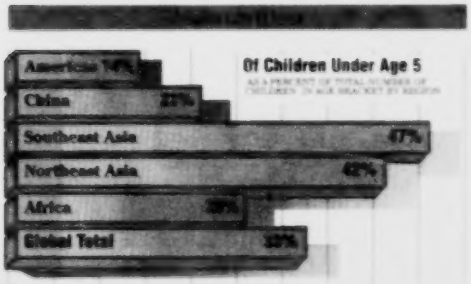
■Two thirds of those deaths are caused by diarrhea, measles, tetanus and respiratory infections—all curable conditions.

■The United States lags far behind most industrial nations in preventing childhood disease and injury. A quarter of preschoolers and a third of poor children under 5 are not immunized.

■Reports of child abuse in the United States have been increasing steadily in the past decade. The majority concern cases of neglect, where children are often denied adequate medical care.

■More than 100 million school-age children around the world, 60 percent of them girls, never see the inside of a classroom. Another 100 million children will drop out before completing their education.

■About 27 million Americans—20 percent of the population—are functionally illiterate. High-school graduation rates for blacks and Hispanics are far below those of whites. Fewer than 50 percent of Hispanic students graduated on time in 1986.

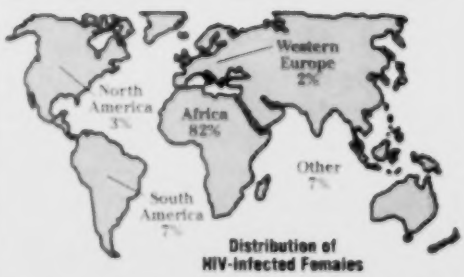


■Every day, about 150 million children under 5 in developing countries go to bed hungry. That is more than the entire population of Brazil.

■Almost 23 million children around the world are classified as severely malnourished. Although the majority will survive, many will suffer permanent damage to their health.

■In the United States, three fifths of the households that receive food stamps contain children. The average amount received, in constant dollars, has not changed since 1980.

AIDS



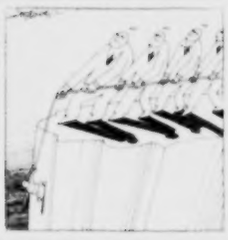
■It is estimated that in the next decade, as many as 2.5 million African children may die of AIDS. An additional 3 million to 5 million children may be AIDS orphans—children whose parents have died of the disease.

■An infant born to an HIV-infected mother has a one-in-three chance of getting the infection. Most infected children die before the age of 2; few live beyond 5.

■In the United States, the number of pediatric AIDS cases is rising rapidly, particularly in inner-city neighborhoods. The government estimates that by 1991, 20,000 children may be infected.

SOURCE: UNICEF, WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, UNESCO

Newsweek
United States of America



Le Monde
France

wife, Karen Morris, writing for the publication *Entry Point*, the quarterly newsletter of Results, a volunteer organization which helped to organize the vigils, described how the Summit affected her. Ms. Morris told how she first learned through a television programme about the 40,000 daily death toll, which led her to arrange a candlelight vigil in her home town of Del Rio, Texas, on the Mexican border. After starting from scratch to learn how to organize a vigil, including involving the sister city of Acuna, Mexico, she described the success and concluded: "It was beautiful. We knew we had done something special — that really makes you feel good."

And perhaps that was the key. The Summit and the events around it gave people in all walks of life an opportunity to feel good, to feel that maybe they could do something to make the world a better place for children. And that 'feel-good' mood apparently extended even as far as the supposedly hard-bitten media which had complained that the Summit would simply result in a lot of leaders talking endlessly. Before the Summit *The New York Times* had a humorous piece on the problem of providing speaking slots for so many leaders in such a short time-frame. The headline told it all: "Protocol Nightmare: Silencing World Leaders". But after the Summit the media noted that all 64 leaders who had asked to talk had done so, often speaking eloquently in the cause of children.

Many newspapers ran numerous excerpts from the speeches, especially from the remarks of Vaclav Havel, who just a year earlier had been a dissident fighting for the political life of his country. Decrying the fact that many adults excuse their work for or support of repressive Governments by saying they are trying to protect their children's future, Czechoslovakia's poet-president thundered, "How much evil has already been committed in the name of children?" You could have heard a pin drop as President Havel proclaimed to the world's most powerful that they must be the conscience for the world's most vulnerable.

Despite its early reservations about the value of the Summit, the media found that the event had great appeal on a number of levels. It had a strong human interest angle as a story about children. It had great appeal as a domestic story in 71 countries whose leaders attended and it was an international gathering *par excellence*.

Many of the daily papers and much of the network coverage in each country led with the words of the national leader and then went on to describe the overall situation of children. In addition, the coverage of the event in the United States was further affected by proximity. The New York press, particularly *The New York Times*, treated the event as a home-town story and did numerous in-depth and feature articles previously unheard of for any event involving the United Nations.

Overall, there is no question that the Summit produced media coverage of children around the world of a nature never seen or imagined in the past.

A wide variety of activities before and after the Summit also helped to create a climate of increased concern about children. Besides the candlelight vigils, which generated a vast amount of coverage, particularly on television, other events that inspired articles included a seminar on the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Jordan; a Nice-to-Paris bicycle race in France; children's musical performances in Ankara, Turkey; a children's poster contest in Mexico; a meeting of 130 Italian mayors in Rome; an immunization week in Baltimore, Maryland; and a week of events dedicated to child survival in both New York City and Washington, D.C.

In the weeks leading up to the Summit, many publications and networks ran special features on the state of the world's children. Vast amounts of air time and news space were devoted solely to the subjects of key concern to UNICEF. For child-survival specialists worldwide — long despairing that children's issues would

ever get such attention — coverage of the World Summit for Children was like the World Cup, the Super Bowl and winning the lottery all rolled into one.

Inevitably, there was criticism in the media — over the cost, over some of the leaders' past policies, over posturing for television cameras. Some articles questioned the utility of some child-survival policies. Some writers railed at the perceived futility of trying to change world priorities in favour of children. Don Williamson, for example, said, in a column in *The Seattle Times*, "it is morally indefensible to need to be reminded that civilization cannot exist without healthy, educated, well-adjusted offspring."

Nevertheless, most articles were positive, taking a more hopeful approach.

The media has paid far more attention to children's issues since the Summit — a good portent for the future. The increased interest was especially noted at the end of 1990 when UNICEF issued *The State of the World's Children 1991* in Berlin.

Continued and expanded coverage is certain to be instrumental in bringing the condition of children into the spotlight and helping to achieve the Summit's end-of-century targets for improved child survival, protection and development.

What follows is a representative sampling from all regions of the world of how the media captured this historic event. The articles are written in more than 20 languages. Few have been translated into English but the images convey the meaning — such is the universality of children and, unfortunately, their problems. Hopefully, many of these problems can be resolved through carrying out the aims of the Summit, which, in the words of James P. Grant, "was the high point of a year of unprecedented action and promise for the young".

Christian Science Monitor
United States of America

PEOPLE

A Call to the World to Care – and to Act

Dialogue
Bangladesh

RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

A DIALOGUE FEATURE

Editor: Wajiha M. S. Doha

Vol III No. 039 Dhaka, Friday, September 28, 1990 NCL DA 762

Children of the World

Compiled by Roxana Rasheed Salam
Dialogue

Childhood

Sweet childish days that were as long
As twenty days are now.
— Wordsworth

In Our Hands

Like a little child I've done lots of wishing
Hoping it would make the world okay
I have wished upon a star
Then watched it moving further away
Till today —

Nothing comes from waiting for tomorrow
Hoping someone else will make it bright
It's because of you and me
I see a future flooded with light

In our hands
There's a world in our care
In our hands
Lies the power we share
In our hands
It can grow
Even more than we know
If we all understand
All that is in our hands

Sometimes when I read the morning paper
Something in my heart just wants to scream
I thought the world a better place
Till one dying child's face makes that seem
Still a dream

Then I hear my children's morning laughter
And I know there is still a chance that's mine
Under all the blinding smoke
The fires of tomorrow still shine

In our hands
There is a world in our care
In our hands
Lies the power we share
In our hands
It can grow
Even more than we know
If we all understand
All that is in our hands

In our hands
In our hands
In our hands
In our hands

Lyrics: Bob Geldof/Midge Ure and David Stewart
Music: (c) 1990 Virgin Music (LTD) (PRS)
Virgin Music (PRS)

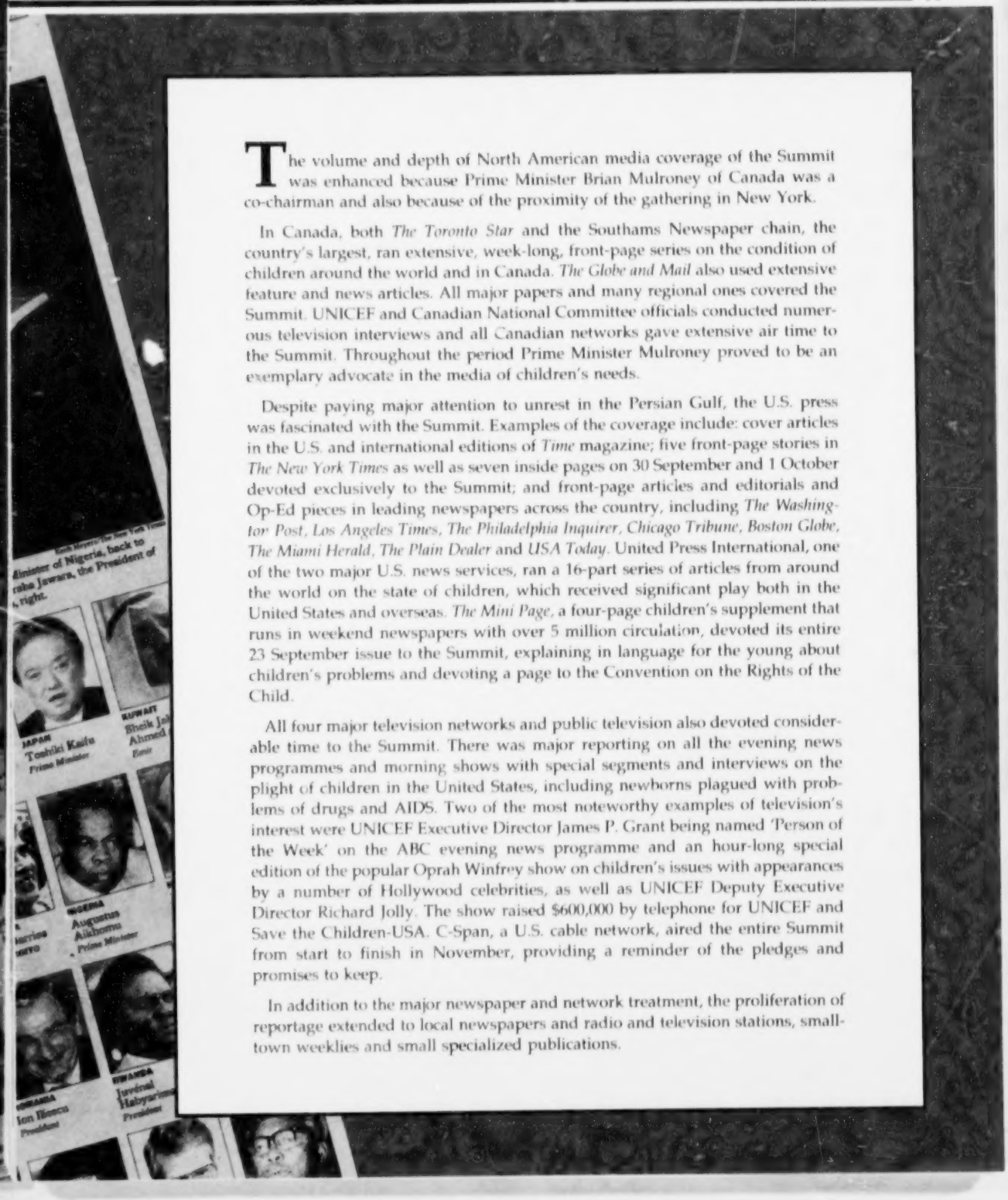
"Fragile beginnings of a mighty end" — Mrs. Norton.

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old he will not depart from it" — Proverbs xxii. 6.

"A simple child
That lightly draws its breath,
And feels its life in every limb,
What should it know of
death."
— Wordsworth

"I call not that man wretched
who whatever ills he suffers, has
a child to love." — Southey

Summit for Children: The Cast
ost Ever
t Summit:
/1 Leaders
In New York
ALBANIA Ramiz Alia President
ARGENTINA Carlos Saúl Menem President
BANGLADESH H.M. Ershad President
BARBADOS Erskine Sandiford Prime Minister
BELGIUM Baudouin I King
BRAZIL Fernando Collor de Mello President
BULGARIA Zhelyu Zhelev President
BURKINA Blaise Compaoré President
CANADA Brian Mulroney Prime Minister
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC André Kolingba President
CHILE Patricio Aylwin President
COLOMBIA César Gaviria President
CYPRUS Spyros Kyprianou President
COSTA RICA Rafael Calderón President
CZECHOSLOVAKIA Vaclav Havel President
DENMARK Poul Schlüter Prime Minister
DJIBOUTI Barkat Gourad Hamadou Prime Minister
DOMINICA Eugenia Charles Prime Minister
EL SALVADOR Alfredo Cristiani President
FINLAND Harri Holkeri Prime Minister
FRANCE Michel Rocard Prime Minister
GAMBIA Dawda Kairaba Jawara President
HOLY SEE Agostino Cardinal Casaroli Secretary of State
HONDURAS Rafael Callejas President
ICELAND Steingrimur Hermannsson Prime Minister
IRELAND Charles J. Haughey Prime Minister
ITALY Giulio
LEBANON Selim al-Hoss Prime Minister
LIECHTENSTEIN Hans Brunhart Prime Minister
LUXEMBOURG Jean Grand Duke
MALDIVES Maumoon Abdul Gayoom President
MALI Moussa Traoré President
MEXICO Carlos Salinas de Gortari President
MOZAMBIQUE Joaquim Alberto Chissano President
NAMIBIA Sam Nujoma President
PERU Juan Carlos Portocarrero Miller
POLAND Tadeusz Mazowiecki
Attending a reception at Gracie Mansion yesterday were Ike Nwachukwu, the minister of external affairs; Augustus Aikhomu, the Prime Minister of Nigeria, in background; Dawda Jawara, President of Gambia, and Emeka Anyaoku, the Secretary General of the Commonwealth



The volume and depth of North American media coverage of the Summit was enhanced because Prime Minister Brian Mulroney of Canada was a co-chairman and also because of the proximity of the gathering in New York.

In Canada, both *The Toronto Star* and the Southams Newspaper chain, the country's largest, ran extensive, week-long, front-page series on the condition of children around the world and in Canada. *The Globe and Mail* also used extensive feature and news articles. All major papers and many regional ones covered the Summit. UNICEF and Canadian National Committee officials conducted numerous television interviews and all Canadian networks gave extensive air time to the Summit. Throughout the period Prime Minister Mulroney proved to be an exemplary advocate in the media of children's needs.

Despite paying major attention to unrest in the Persian Gulf, the U.S. press was fascinated with the Summit. Examples of the coverage include: cover articles in the U.S. and international editions of *Time* magazine; five front-page stories in *The New York Times* as well as seven inside pages on 30 September and 1 October devoted exclusively to the Summit; and front-page articles and editorials and Op-Ed pieces in leading newspapers across the country, including *The Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, The Philadelphia Inquirer, Chicago Tribune, Boston Globe, The Miami Herald, The Plain Dealer* and *USA Today*. United Press International, one of the two major U.S. news services, ran a 16-part series of articles from around the world on the state of children, which received significant play both in the United States and overseas. *The Mini Page*, a four-page children's supplement that runs in weekend newspapers with over 5 million circulation, devoted its entire 23 September issue to the Summit, explaining in language for the young about children's problems and devoting a page to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

All four major television networks and public television also devoted considerable time to the Summit. There was major reporting on all the evening news programmes and morning shows with special segments and interviews on the plight of children in the United States, including newborns plagued with problems of drugs and AIDS. Two of the most noteworthy examples of television's interest were UNICEF Executive Director James P. Grant being named 'Person of the Week' on the ABC evening news programme and an hour-long special edition of the popular Oprah Winfrey show on children's issues with appearances by a number of Hollywood celebrities, as well as UNICEF Deputy Executive Director Richard Jolly. The show raised $600,000 by telephone for UNICEF and Save the Children-USA. C-Span, a U.S. cable network, aired the entire Summit from start to finish in November, providing a reminder of the pledges and promises to keep.

In addition to the major newspaper and network treatment, the proliferation of reportage extended to local newspapers and radio and television stations, small-town weeklies and small specialized publications.

Sunday Insight

Section E

The statistics on how the world's two billion children live are a chilling indictment of our inability to protect our youngest citizens

Innocent victims

The Children's Summit

Canadian care system rife with casualties

Children rank as the States' poorest citizens

Colombian street kids fighting war

Life in Africa ... where children fight famine, disease and war

'Miraculous' immunization program saving millions

The Edmonton Sunday Journal

The Edmonton Sunday Journal

Small World

A big meeting about kids

The World Summit for children

Things children everywhere need

An international bill of rights for kids

Making education a right

A traveling treasure box

The Edmonton Sunday Journal

LIFE/ENTERTAINMENT

Making youth issues a priority

LIFE

Youth shadowed by grim odds

LIFE

OUR OWN THIRD WORLD

LIFE

The Toronto Star

THE OTTAWA CITIZEN

155 Million Children Live in Poverty

NEXT WEEKEND, up to 80 world leaders will meet in New York at the first-ever World Summit for Children. Today, the Citizen begins a look at the problems confronting the world's children in the 1990s.

Children are our legacy to the future. But from the First to the Third Worlds, they are the innocent victims of war, famine, abuse and neglect.

World leaders meet in New York Sept. 29-30 at a World Summit for Children. The problems they will discuss are overwhelming, the solutions elusive.

Statistics on how the world's two billion children live and die are grim. They are a chilling indictment both of our inability to protect our youngest citizens and our disregard for the kind of world we will leave behind:

- About 130 million babies are born each year — 250 every minute.
- Fourteen million die every year from preventable disease and malnutrition, or roughly 38,000 every day.
- Ninety-seven per cent of child deaths under five occur in the developing world, which contains 85 per cent of the world's population.
- Child mortality rates in the poorest, war-torn regions are staggering. In Mozambique, Afghanistan and Mali, close to one in three children die before their fifth birthdays.

What kind of life lies ahead for those children who do survive? First, it will be an existence of hardship. Some 155 million children live in poverty. Half of the world's children have no safe drinking water and two-thirds have no access to adequate sanitation.

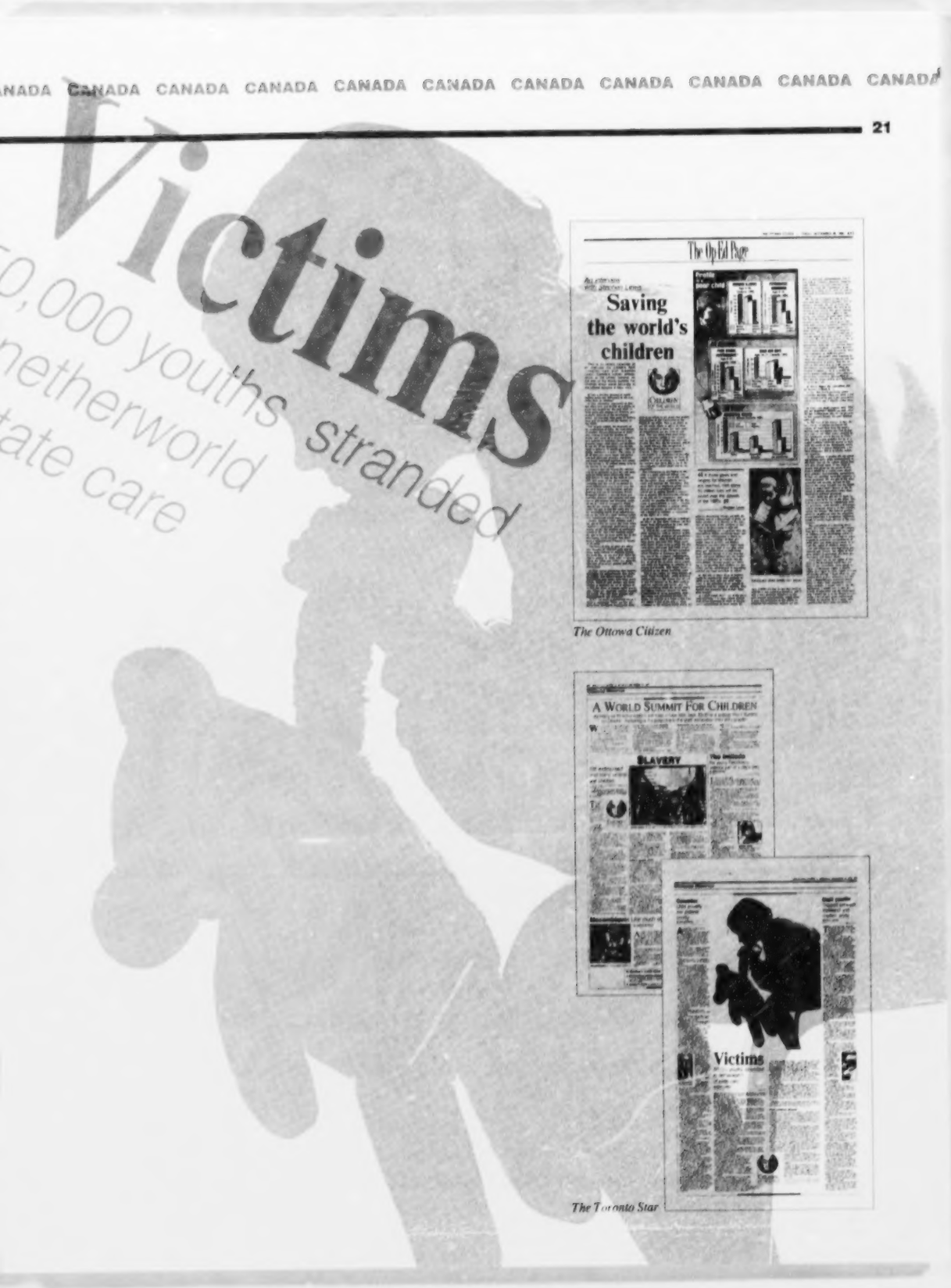
And their lives will be short. In many African nations, for example, children will live to what North Americans consider middle age. In Mali, life expectancy is 44, in Ethiopia, 41.

Few will receive more than a few years of formal education, and many will be illiterate. This is an even more compelling problem for women who are married and bearing children when Canadian girls are attending their first high school dance. In Bangladesh, for example, the average marriage age for girls is 11.6 years.

In some war zones, less than half of those who enrol will finish primary school — one in three in El Salvador, one in five in Nicaragua. In Afghanistan, 39 per cent of men are able to read, only eight per cent of women . . .

CHILDREN
The World's Innocent Victims

The Ottawa Citizen



The Op-Ed Page

Saving the world's children

The Ottawa Citizen

A World Summit For Children

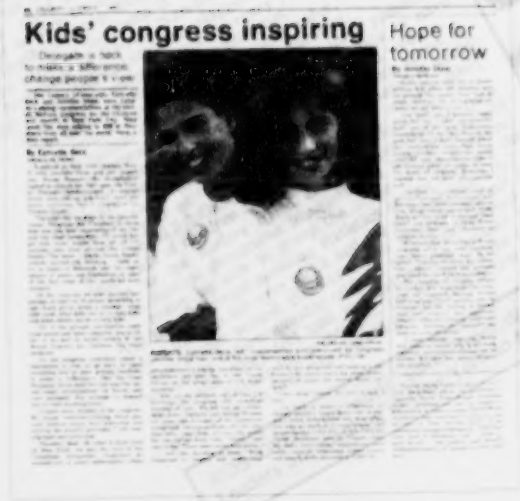
Slavery

Victims

The Toronto Star

Summit promises concerted action on children

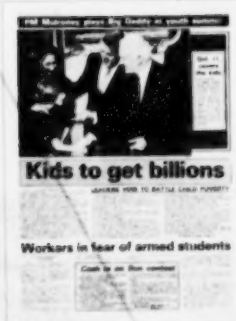
The Globe and Mail



Kids' congress inspiring

Hope for tomorrow

The Calgary Herald



The Sunday Sun

Cry for the children

By EDGAR MILLER

WASHINGTON (UPI) — In a world in which almost daily new wonders of medical science are announced, children still perish at the alarming rate of 40,000 a day — mostly from preventable causes.

This number, and all the other grim statistics of hunger, poverty, disease and war, has been implanted firmly upon the world's conscience as an unprecedented number of leaders gather for the first-ever World Summit for Children of the UN to try to find solutions to this global disgrace.

The human face to the statistics is Ek, a 13-year-old boy — Bangkok, Thailand, who looks 6. Thrown out of his home, he lives on the streets sniffing glue and begging.

The human face is Dairei Roberto Pereira, 11, executed in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, by a "death squad" determined to "clean the streets" of some of the seven million homeless children in Latin America's largest nation.

And the human face is a pregnant, 13-year-old hooker on the streets of Bucharest, Romania, in an underworld that lives on prostitution, begging and packing pockets.

Some bright points

But there are bright points. An Indian immunization program that will save thousands of lives by preventing polio, measles and other diseases virtually eliminated countries.

A program aims at getting Muslim and Jews to live peacefully together in a number of the rubble and sniper fire of Beirut.

Children who most suffer from war, disease, hunger, drugs and racism. Millions are on the streets or in hovels, begging and even. They turn to drugs and prostitution. the hands of sadistic police.

Rasmee Namazi, UNICEF representative

- statistics are staggering.

under 5 years die every year as the world suffer from malnutrition.

have no access to clean water.

don't get classroom education.

et is there's no money for these problems. ik out from government budgets in hard al services, health, education and welfare.

• time the world's governments spend $1 on "defence." UNICEF estimates it would 1 billion a year to begin to cut the daily children and provide them education.

leaders speed around Manhattan in their sumptuous banquets and talk politics will - able to grasp the scope of the problem." cited numbing statistics or can they see the the eyes of Ek and the millions like him?

around the world who struggle against the ormountable odds to help impoverished are ey feel that just getting the leaders to sit to the problem — for the first time in this first step toward getting real action.

If the world suffer from disease and poverty ... are meeting in New York to tackle the problem.

Pope pleads with leaders

VATICAN CITY (Reuter) — Pope John Paul, in an letter to world leaders yesterday, attacked abortion and contraception as a violation of children's rights.

"The children of the world cry out for greater respect for their inalienable individual dignity and for their right to life from the first moment of conception," the Pope said in his letter to the leaders of the World Summit for Children at the UN in New York City.

Of some 70 heads of state attending the summit, several European leaders have said they will stress family planning as a necessary goal in improving conditions for the most children.

Respect for kids

The pontiff appealed for respect for "the moral convictions of parents regarding the transmission of life, with no urging to resort to means which are morally unacceptable."

The Pope, the most widely travelled pontiff in history, said his trips had brought home to him the suffering and injustice borne by children everywhere.

"They are most vulnerable, because they are least able to make their voices heard."

Adults can't offer many lessons

MICHEL GRATTON ... at the United Nations

NEW YORK — "It's the tools," I said.

"What?" replied the security guard.

"My tools. There's metal on them, so they turn on your alarm."

In most high-security areas, this would have worked. But this time the officer simply said: "Well, I guess you're gonna have to take them off."

I could give the brave security man credit. He never even blinked as the delightful odor from my metal tools drifted up to his prying nose.

Kaka? Maybe.

But this is New York. In fact, it's a little more than that. This is the UN, where more heads of state and government leaders than ever before in one place are gathering to discuss a subject governments normally give little attention to: Children.

Co-hosting the World Summit for Children as an "initiator" was none other than Brian Mulroney.

The prime minister appeared in fine form yesterday as he fielded a few questions from reporters on a summit that has so far provoked as much criticism as praise in this unforgiving town.

He was asked specifically about the security tools that includes the guy who made me remove my tools — and how many children could have been helped with that money (something like $5 million).

"Well, how much did it cost to put this building together at the UN? How much does it cost to operate the United Nations every year?" shot back Mulroney.

"If you are going to do something that's important, you can't deal with trivial questions — you have to keep your eye on the ball, and the eye on the ball is bringing together 75 heads of government and state."

Then came the clincher, as Mulroney threw the ball back in the media court. "Sure it costs money. Your being here costs your employer money."

That'll get us every time. Journalists by and large feel guilty about trips abroad — especially when there's no front page news in the cards.

That's the case with this children's summit. As much as media types like to delude themselves into believing they're at the forefront of change and evolution, we're always lagging behind.

We portray children as cute, and like to forget they're the adults of tomorrow. Oh, it's true that once in a while, when tragedy stares us in the face, we'll talk about this dying boy who needs an organ transplant or the starving kids of Ethiopia.

But in the end, how can a bunch of messed-up adults like ourselves give lessons to those who'll replace us when we need thousands of cops and guns to protect this summit?

What kind of world are we leaving them?

There's some consolation in the fact that, at least — and at last — world leaders are talking about it.

But let's not be fooled by the mirage of the so-called "civilized" world. It is too easy for us to point the finger at Third World countries and concentrate our criticism on their poor children's fate.

We should look at ourselves first. We're so sanctimonious, although we can provide financial and medical help, we have no lessons to give anybody.

I leave you with this advice I learned on the street. Never kick a kid when he's down. He may grow up.

TIME

Suffer the Little Children

Every time a child is born
It brings with it the hope
That God is not yet
Disappointed with man. — Rabindranath Tagore

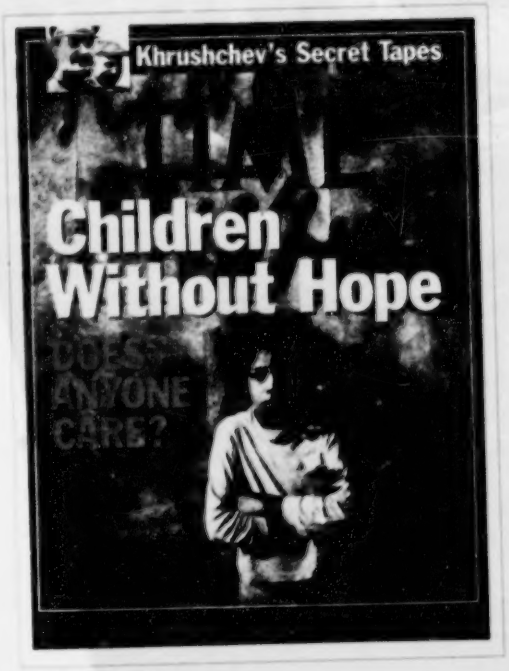
. . . They labor in factories and field until their hands are gnarled and their backs bent. They sell their bodies in the alleyways of Recife and Beirut and Nairobi until they are haggard or dead from AIDS. They wander homeless in the streets of Naples and Khartoum and New York City, surviving by begging and thieving. They die by the thousands every day, of easily preventable diseases like measles and whooping cough. They are the worlds' most disadvantaged children. If present trends continue, more than 100 million youngsters will die, most of them unnecessarily, of illness or malnutrition or both during the 1990s. Their neglect by governments preoccupied with politics, guns and national debt leads child-care workers the world over to ask the plaintive question: Does anyone care?

This weekend at U.N. headquarters in New York City there will be one spectacular display of caring — at least outwardly. It will be an unprecedented gathering: the leaders of about 75 nations meeting to discuss the plight of the world's most vulnerable. When the World Summit for Children assembles in Manhattan, 41 Presidents, 29 Prime Ministers, a King, a Grand Duke and a Cardinal are expected to be among those in attendance; previously the largest number of such luminaries ever received in one day was 25, at the U.N.'s 40th anniversary ceremonies in 1985.

President George Bush will be there, as will the Presidents and Prime Ministers of the Big Seven economic powers, partly as a result of some arm twisting by Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, who, with President Moussa Traoré of Mali, is co-chairman of the event. One big name that will be missing is Mikhail Gorbachev; he is preoccupied with problems at home. However, the Byelorussian and Ukrainian republics — which hold separate seats in the U.N. — will be there, upstaging, as it were, the Soviet President.

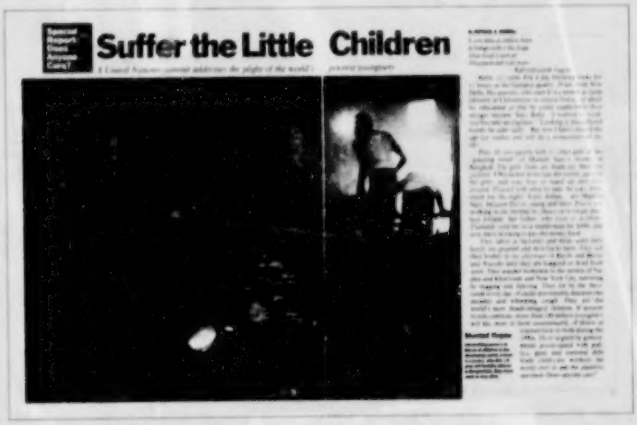
In anticipation of the summit, more than a million people are expected to gather early this week in at least 2,600 candlelight vigils around the globe to dramatize the children's plight. Among other places, ceremonies will be held at the U.S.–Mexican border, the Eiffel Tower in Paris, St. Paul's Cathedral in London, Buddhist monasteries in South Korea and Bhutan, refugee camps in Ethiopia and Somalia and in more than 700 villages in Bangladesh.

What in fact will eventually be translated into action remains to be seen. No doubt, some of the leaders signed up for the children's summit to discuss other pressing problems on the side: the crisis in the Persian Gulf, a possible peace settlement



Time International

Special Report: Does Anyone Care?



Suffer the Little Children

Time International

Time International

in Cambodia, the political revolution in Eastern Europe. But the assembly will be more than window dressing. In a day and a half of meetings, the leaders will endorse a declaration committing their countries to an action plan for improving the lot of children.

Among the goals to be achieved by the year 2000: reduction by one-third of the mortality rate of youngsters under five, elimination of polio and neonatal tetanus and access to prenatal care for all women. The declaration is to be given teeth by the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which went into force as an internationally binding legal document early this month and has so far been ratified by 39 nations.

The signers of both documents have set themselves a formidable task, for the catalog of death, neglect, degradation and exploitation affecting children is long and disheartening:

- Every day, more then 40,000 youngsters under the age of five die of preventable causes.
- About 150 million under five are malnourished, 23 million severely so.
- More than 100 million children of school age, 60% of them girls, never step inside a classroom.
- About than 30 million children live in the streets.

- About 7 million are refugees from war or famine.
- In Central and East Africa, 10 million will have lost at least one parent to AIDS by the year 2000 . . .

The Third World's economic problems have had a direct impact on children. According to a U.N. study, in the 37 poorest countries, outlays on education dipped 25% during the '80s. Hundreds of health clinics closed down, and spending was cut on family planning, importation of medicine and other child-oriented programs. In some countries the impact of the downturn has been tragic: in Peru, a country ravaged by economic stagnation and civil war, malnourishment is so prevalent that it stunts the growth of 1 youngster in 3 . . .

There is some reason for optimism. Almost two-thirds of the 14 million yearly deaths are caused by four diseases: diarrhea and dehydration due to contaminated food and water; measles; whopping cough; and tetanus in newborns (the most frequent cause of tetanus: an infected umbilical stump). All can be treated or prevented at low cost. In the case of diarrheal disease, which accounts for 28% of the deaths, the lifesaver is a 7.6-cm-square packet containing a dry mixture of salt, sugar and potassium that, when mixed with water, is used in oral rehydration therapy . . .

Treatment of such acute respiratory infections as pneumonia is also cheap and easy, with a full course of oral antibiotics like penicillin available for less than $1 a patient. Measles and tetanus, along with diphtheria, whooping cough, polio and other diseases, are preventable through immunization, again relatively cheap . . .

The big success story, however, is in immunization. In 1980 no more than 10% to 20% of the poor countries' children were vaccinated. Today the figure stands at more than 70% . . .

But penicillin and Sabin vaccine are no antidote to the abuse, neglect and denial of opportunity that will be the other major preoccupations of the children's summit. The main weapon against those transgressions is the Convention on the Rights of the Child, a document 10 years in the making that will, in theory at least, force countries to pay more attention to the needs of their young. After the language of the convention was approved a year ago, the document was quickly signed by 100 U.N. members. Three legislatures ratified it in recent weeks, bringing the total to 39, and three leaders — President Vaclav Havel of Czechoslovakia, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu of Japan and Prime Minister Charles Haughey of Ireland — have announced that they will initial the document at the summit.

The convention affirms the right of children to a life free from exploitation, neglect and abuse; requires nations to ensure that the young have access to food, health care and education; and sets up protection for youngsters involved in the juvenile justice process or in adoption proceedings. Though support for the convention is universal among child-advocacy groups, some wonder whether its high-minded language will ever be translated into action . . .

THE NEW YORK TIMES

World Leaders Endorse Plan to Improve Lives of Children

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 30 — Leaders from more than 70 nations came together here today in an extraordinary show of concern for the world's poorest children. They adopted a declaration and a plan of action committing them to drastically improving the lives of those children.

The declaration of the World Summit for Children pledged the participating nations to work together in an effort to save the lives of at least a third of the 14 million infants who now die each year before the age of 5.

The summit leaders also agreed to seek to cut malnutrition among children in half by the year 2000, reduce the number of women dying in childbirth and provide clean water and primary education for all.

"The children of the world are innocent, vulnerable and dependent," the declaration said. "They are also curious, active and full of hope. Their time should be one of joy and peace, of playing, learning and growing. Their future should be shaped in harmony and cooperation. Their lives should mature, as they broaden their perspectives and gain new experience."

"But for many children, the reality of childhood is altogether different," it said.

The halls of the General Assembly reverberated during the day with lofty and often poignant language about the plight of children, not only in the most destitute countries of the world but also in urban communities in richer lands.

$20 Billion Needed

Despite the high level of concern expressed, none of the leaders attending the summit pledged fresh money to meet the cost of achieving the goals that experts said were likely to require an extra $20 billion a year for the rest of the decade.

"A better world for children is within our reach but, as many heads of state have pointed out today, it is too early to say whether it is within our grasp," Prime Minister Brian Mulroney of Canada, a co-chairman and a catalyst for convoking the conference, told the closing session. "The real work starts now."

The world leaders, including President Bush, were limited to four minutes each to allow everyone a chance to speak today.

Mr. Bush, who had to give priority to the negotiations on reducing the budget deficit, flew back to Washington after speaking in the morning, and then returned late in the afternoon to resume meetings with other leaders who were in New York. He is to address the General Assembly Monday morning on world issues.

The traffic gridlock that some city officials said they feared never developed, although there were some slow-downs as limousines approached and left the United Nations area.

The summit meeting transformed the United Nations today. In keeping with the theme, children were everywhere. The choir of the United Nations School provided the arriving leaders with folk songs. Children in national costumes posed for pictures with the celebrities, and a large number of children were in the audience for the opening ceremonies.

The United Nations reported that 2,800 children a year die from whooping cough, 8,000 from measles, 4,000 from tetanus, 5,500 from malaria, 22,000 from diarrhea, and 12,000 from pneumonia — all deaths that are preventable.

"We are gathered to speak for the children of the earth," Mr. Bush said in his address. "Let us affirm in this historic summit that these children can be saved when we live up to our responsibilities as a world community of adults, of parents."

While most speakers spoke of the plight of children and the need to improve their lot, there were some unusual speeches raising political questions that had to be resolved first.

President Vaclav Havel of Czechoslovakia used his speech to argue that Communist governments by their very nature had oppressed generations of people by telling them they were building what he called "a false paradise" for their children.

The New York Times

World Leaders Endorse Plan To Improve Lives of Children

"A thousand times I have heard people defend their servitude to a hated regime by the argument they were doing it only for the children: to be able to feed them, to make it possible for them to study, to be able to afford vacations at the seaside with them," he said. But the result, he said, was that the oppression continued.

"How much evil has already been committed in the name of children?" he asked.

President Havel said he wanted to add a paragraph to the declaration forbidding parents to "lie, serve dictatorships, inform on others, bend one's back, be scared of dictators and betray one's friends in the name of the alleged interests of children."

Several third world leaders warned that the plight of their countries' children often reflected developments beyond their control, including the adverse economic climate in the world, heavy foreign debts, intractable wars and despotic, undemocratic regimes.

Debt and the Environment

President Abdou Diouf of Senegal said, "All seem to agree a solution can't be found to these problems without a solution to the debt crisis." He added that the time has come "for radical measures" including the cancellation of all bilateral debts.

Zimbabwe's President, Robert G. Mugabe, warned that even if the money could be found to carry out the summit's goals, "there may be little we can do unless the environment is correct." He said he was thinking of strife-ridden countries like Mozambique and Angola, where spending more aid on children will accomplish little until the fighting stops.

President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda said the fundamental reason why so many African children are dying is "the prevalence of authoritarian, top-down styles of government" and "the oppression of man by man."

At U.N., World Leaders Endorse a Plan to Improve the Lives of Children

The New York Times

Many leaders argued that raising the living standards of third world children is likely to depend in the end on reducing rates of population growth in developing countries and protecting the environment.

"Overpopulation leads to poverty inconsistent with human dignity," said West German President Richard von Weizsacker.

But in a message to the summit, Pope John Paul II reaffirmed the Roman Catholic Church's hostility to birth control.

Other ambitious goals to which the leaders set their signature today include universal access for children to safe water and primary education by the end of the century, as well as eradicating poliomyelitis and neonatal tetanus and insuring that no more than 10 percent of the world's babies are under weight at birth.

Mr. Bush disappointed the summit's organizers by skipping Saturday night's dinner and making only a token appearance at today's opening session before racing back to Washington for the culmination of his budget meetings with Congressional leaders.

The President did not sign the final declaration and action plan or a new Convention of the Rights of the Child, approved by the United Nations General Assembly last year. The Convention lays down international norms for the protection of children that governments are bound to observe.

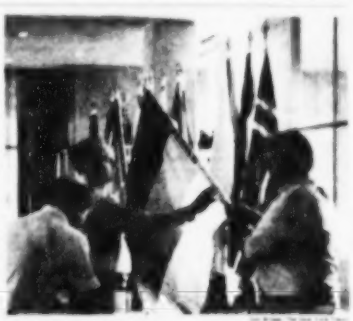
Some American conservative groups have attacked the convention because it does not outlaw abortion while banning the execution of those under 18.

The New York Times

World Leaders Gather at U.N. to Pledge to Pursue Better Lives for Children

Mass for Children

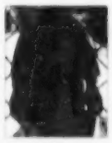
The United Nations Secretary General, Javier Perez de Cuellar, with clergy yesterday at the Holy Family Church on East 47th Street in Manhattan. A children's Mass was celebrated by Agostino Cardinal Casaroli, the Vatican's Secretary of State, as part of the summit meeting for children.



Flags for the Children

Members of the United Nations Security staff hanging the ceremonial flags of countries for the World Summit for Children at the United Nations General Assembly building. From left are Obaidul B. Khan, Ronni Gallo, with the West German flag, and Walter Caulfield.

The New York Times



"...our national character can be measured by how we care for our children."

"...mankind can no longer put up with the fact that millions of children die every year...."

Leaders of the world's two most powerful nations have let themselves be counted. It is now time for real action. Like so many of us, our national leaders are numbed by the enormity of the problem: **40,000 children dying each day from malnutrition and disease.**

We we have within our grasp the means to save almost half of the children under five who die daily – almost 20,000. We have new medical technologies, such as a 10¢ packet of saline nutrients to combat deadly dehydration, we have low-cost vaccines and vitamins, new ways of delivering medicine, and new communication and education tools to eradicate the ignorance that helps these diseases thrive.

So what can we do? Thankfully, we have at this moment an unprecedented opportunity to influence those at the levers of power.

The leaders of six nations (Canada, Egypt, Mali, Mexico, Pakistan and Sweden) have called for a World Summit for Children this September 29-30. Twenty-two other governments have joined them in a Planning Committee to prepare for this first North-South East-West global summit, which will be chaired by Canada's Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.

At this meeting, leaders from around the world will be asked to do something bold and courageous – divert more of their attention and resources from current priorities, such as military security, and adopt a policy of first call for children.

A successful World Summit for Children can make the 1990s the decade in which the shameful large-scale deaths and widespread malnutrition of the world's children and the deteriorating quality of life for children in industrialized nations are consigned to history, providing a permanent gift from the last decade of the 20th century to the people of the next century.

It may come as a surprise to many that there is now evidence that, by saving young lives, we also reduce the population growth rate. Experience shows that as parents become confident their first children will survive, the birth rate declines. In fact, no country in the world has reduced its population without reducing infant mortality.

In the new climate of openness and disarmament, the time is certainly ripe for such a summit. But the truth is that, unless the most influential countries participate fully, the potential of the summit to achieve real positive change will be lost.

It's time to back words with action.

Steve Allen	Jane Curtin	George Hamilton	Frances Nayen	Under 18 Years Old
Woody Allen	Tony Danza	Kadeem Hardinson	Edward James Olmos	Chad Allen
Ross Armstrong	Billy Davis, Jr.	Valerie Harper	Gregory Peck	Bryce Beckham
Beatrice Arthur	Clifton Davis	Tippi Hedren	Rhea Perlman	Mayumi Bialik
Edward Asner	Geena Davis	Audrey Hepburn	Lou Diamond Phillips	Brian Bonsall
Armand Assante	Carol & Dom DeLuise	Whitney Houston	Stefanie Powers	Soleil Moon Frye
Dan Aykroyd	Peter DeLuise	Raul Julia	Rain Pryor	Sara Gilbert
Ed Begley, Jr.	Robert DeNiro	Carol Kane	Sarah Purcell	Benji Gregory
Harry Belafonte	Rosanna DeSoto	Jean & Casey Kasem	Nancy & John Ritter	Stacy Keanan
Shari Belafonte	Danny DeVito	Diane Keaton	Kenny Rogers	Jason Marsden
Milton Berle	Bruce DeWitt	Kevin Kline	Cesar Romero	Kellie Martin
Ellen Burstyn	John Denver	Cathy & Ken Kragen	Mark Rydell	Crystal McKellar
Sonia Braga	Susan Dey	Lenny Kravitz	Kathy Segal	Danica McKellar
Beau Bridges	Dominick & Richard Dorofatso	Lisa & Kris Kristofferson	Vidal Sassoon	Jeremy Miller
Dyanne & Lloyd Bridges	Dudley Moore	Stephanie Kramer	David Shire	Danny Pintauro
Jeff Bridges	Morgan Fairchild	Harvey Korman	Frank Sinatra	Chance Quinn
Jacklyn Bysenga	Peter Falk	Martin Landau	Lori Singer	Jared Rushton
Carol Burnett	Chris & Lou Ferrigno	Abbe Lane	Dr. Benjamin Spock	Josh Saviano
Ellen Burstyn	Jane Fonda	Jack Lemmon	Dean Stockwell	Jodie Sweetin
Taylor Burton	Farrah Fawcett	Lou Lekos	Sting	Tina Yothers
Sandy Cheeks	Melissa Gilbert	Bob Mackie	Patrick Sawyer & Lisa Niemi	
Cesar Cheeres	Danny Glover	Melissa Manchester	Elizabeth Taylor	
Cher	Whoopi Goldberg	Paul Mazursky	Randy Travis	
Rosemary Clooney	Jeff Goldblum	Marilyn McCoo	Lana Turner	
Gary Collins	Cyndi & Louis Gossett, Jr.	Kelly McGillis	Liv Ullmann	
Judy Collins	Lee Grant	Jayne Meadows	Jon Voight	
Didi Conn	Dick Gregory	George Michael	Nancy Walker	
Rita Coolidge	Robert Guillaume	Bette Midler	Lesley Ann Warren	
Bill Cosby	Steve Guttenberg	Alyssa Milano	Dionne Warwick	
Cathy Lee Crosby	Sherry & Buddy Hackett	Mary Ann Mobley	Gerry & Dennis Weaver	
	Deidre Hall	Mary Tyler Moore	Daphne Zuniga	
	Veronica Hamel	Cruz Morales		

We ask all our fellow citizens to join us in highlighting this opportunity by participating in World Summit for Children Candlelight Vigils on September 23. The vigils will demonstrate to our leaders the widespread public support of dramatic action for children.

1-800-WE AGREE

The New York Times

Children's Vigils, 236 Massachusetts Avenue NE, Suite 300, Washington DC 20002, (202) 546-1900

"...our national character can be measured by how we care for our children."
President George Bush

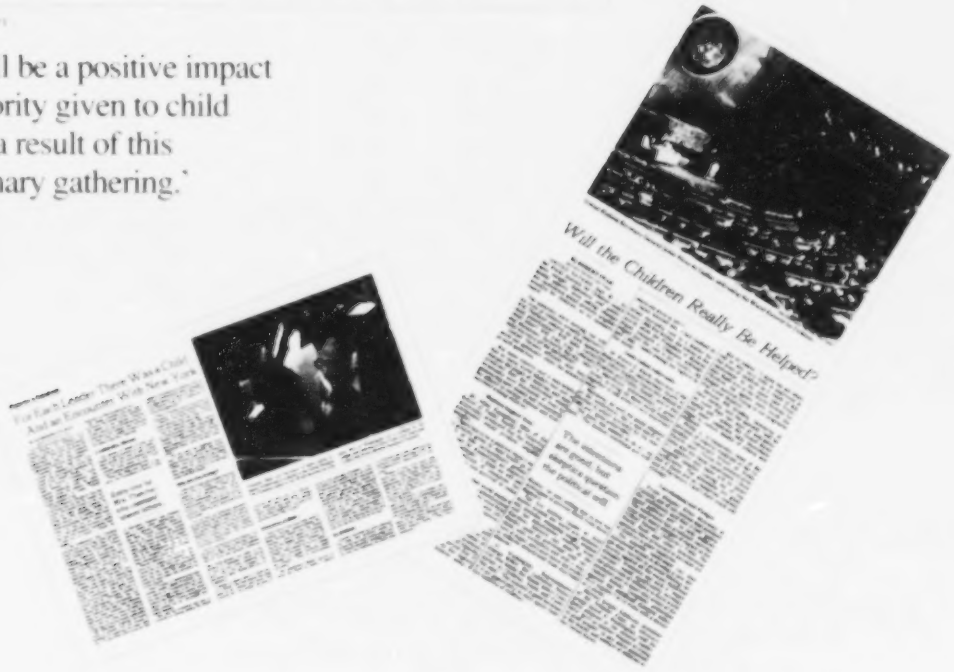
"...mankind can no longer put up with the fact that millions of children die every year..."
President Mikhail Gorbachev

Reporter's Notebook

A Protocol Nightmare: Silencing World Leaders

The New York Times

'There will be a positive impact in the priority given to child health as a result of this extraordinary gathering.'



Will the Children Really Be Helped?

The New York Times

The New York Times

New York Children Join In Exchanging of Ideas

"Maybe this conference will help bring peace."

The New York Times

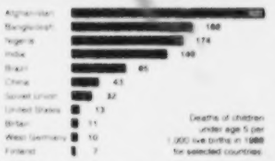
U.N. Summit: The Plight of the World's Children

THE PERILS

SOMALIA: Two mothers with their children near death

Death

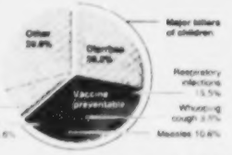
Nearly 15 million children under age 5 die each year; half a million women die annually as a result of pregnancy or childbirth.



ROMANIA: Children with AIDS in a Transylvania hospital

Disease

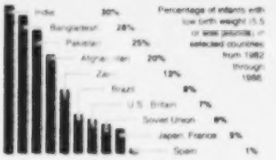
Almost two-thirds of child deaths are from four easily remedied causes: diarrhea, respiratory infections, measles and newborn tetanus. The latest threat: an estimated 1.5 million women worldwide are infected with the virus that causes AIDS.



PERU: Standing in line for wheat in Lima

Hunger

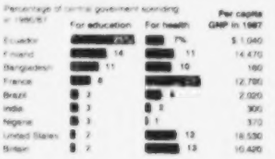
Some 40 percent of children under age 5 in the world's poor countries suffer from malnutrition.



BANGLADESH: In a village classroom

Illiteracy

Nearly 100 million children of primary school age are not taking part in any education programs.


Percentage of central government spending in 1985/87
For education
For health
Per capita GNP in 1987
Ecuador 25% 7% $ 1,040
Finland 14 11 14,470
Bangladesh 11 10 160
France 6 5 12,700
Brazil 3 6 2,020
India 3 3 300
Nigeria 3 1 370
United States 2 13 18,530
Britain 2 13 10,420

UNICEF'S GOALS FOR THE YEAR 2000

- Reduce by one third death rates for children under age 5 (or to 70 deaths per 1,000 live births, whichever is less).
- Cut maternal mortality rates in half.
- Make family planning education and services available to all couples.
- Provide access to pre-natal care for all women.
- Increase recognition of special health and nutritional needs of females during childhood, adolescence, pregnancy and lactation.
- Educate more families on importance of supporting women in exclusive breast feeding for the first four to six months of a baby's life and in meeting the special feeding needs of a young child.
- Eradicate polio.
- Eliminate tetanus in newborns (by 1995).
- Reduce cases of measles by 90 percent and measles deaths by 95 percent compared with pre-immunization levels (by 1995).
- Achieve and maintain at least 85 percent immunization of one-year-olds and universal tetanus immunization for women in child bearing years.
- Cut deaths from diarrhea in half and reduce cases by 25 percent.
- Reduce by a third deaths caused by acute respiratory infections.
- Eliminate guinea worm disease.
- Make safe water and sanitation available to all families.
- Reduce severe and moderate malnutrition by half.
- Reduce incidence of low birth weight (5.5 pounds or less) to less than 10 percent.
- Eliminate vitamin A- and iodine-deficiency disorders.
- Reduce iron-deficiency anemia among women by a third.
- Provide basic education for all children and achieve at least 80 percent completion of primary education.
- Halve adult illiteracy rates and provide equal educational opportunity for males and females.
- Mobilize communications technology to provide education on such subjects as family health, food production, workload reduction and protection of the environment.

Source: UNICEF

Help the Children, Here and Abroad

By Matilda R. Cuomo

Tomorrow, leaders from more than 70 nations will convene at the United Nations to participate in a World Summit for Children. The meeting will reflect a growing world wide commitment to the rights of children everywhere.

Every day 40,000 children under the age of 5 die in developing countries. Millions of other children are killed each year by curable and preventable illnesses such as measles, whooping cough, tetanus, pneumonia, polio and diphtheria. War and poverty have crippled tens of millions more.

Surely we can provide the dollar's worth of health care, the nutritious food, the clean water and sanitation that would save most of these lives. In fact, Unicef reports that an additional $2.5 billion a year more in spending would save the lives of 50 million children under the age of 5 by the year 2000. How can we afford to spendless?

How, too, can we tolerate the devastation of drugs, violence and family breakdown that is ravaging the lives of children in developing and industrialized nations alike? How can we turn our backs on the children being victimized by political upheaval?

In 1986, as part of a Unicef delegation, I traveled to Zimbabwe to participate in the "International Symposium for the Survival and Development of the Child." We witnessed firsthand apartheid's impact on the lives of the children in the frontline states.

In Mozambique, I saw 10,000 children crowded into a single refugee camp. They were homeless, orphaned, starved, mutilated and tortured children who had watched as their parents were murdered children trapped to kill, and forced to fire on friends and relatives. In one hospital we saw children [illegible] bombs, bearing the [illegible] wooden prostheses [illegible] children in their mothers' arms, their bellies distended from hunger.

These were not my children. Nor are they yours. But they are our children. They are gifts from God and we are their stewards, charged with the obligation to give them the best possible care.

The World Summit for Children reminds us that the health and welfare of the world's children must be a top priority for leaders of all nations. The World Summit will enable all nations to express that commitment by ratifying the historic 1989 U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child, which sets minimum standards for survival, health and education, as well as explicit protection against violence and exploitation.

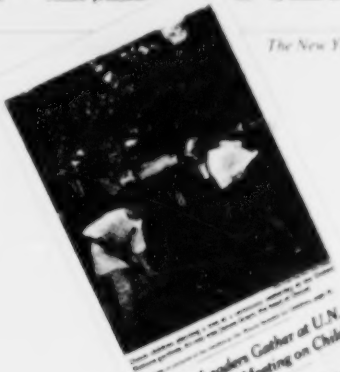
We can save 50 million lives by 2000.

The United States should lead the world in supporting the convention. And its ratification here would be more than a symbolic gesture: it would be a recognition of the vulnerability of our own children. Today, three million more American children live in poverty than in 1980. The number of children living in foster care homes, detention centers and homeless shelters is rising, as are the numbers of crack-addicted mothers giving birth to babies with bent minds and bruised bodies.

As we wait for the Federal Government to launch a National Decade of the Child — to reduce our disgraceful infant mortality rate, to help provide universal pre-kindergarten education, to begin a national campaign to reduce accidental deaths and to insure that young Americans have medical insurance up to age 19 — we can, as a nation, take a giant step forward by helping the children of the world. The World Summit provides a golden opportunity to begin. □

Matilda R. Cuomo is the honorary chairwoman of the New York State Council on Children and Families.

The New York Times



World's Leaders Gather at U.N. For Summit Meeting on Children

We can save 50 million lives by 2000.

Excerpts From the United Nations Declaration on Children

Special to The New York Times

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 30 — Following are excerpts from the declaration on children issued here today:

We have gathered at the World Summit for children to undertake a joint commitment and to make an urgent universal appeal — to give every child a better future.

The children of the world are innocent, vulnerable and dependent. They are also curious, active and full of hope. Their time should be one of joy and peace, of playing, learning and growing. Their future should be shaped in harmony and cooperation. Their lives should mature as they broaden their perspectives and gain new experience.

But for many children, the reality of childhood is altogether different.

The Challenge

Each day countless children around the world are exposed to dangers that hamper their growth and development. They suffer unnecessarily as casualties of war and violence, as victims of racial discrimination, apartheid, aggression, foreign occupation and annexation, as refugees and displaced children, forced to abandon their homes and their roots, as disabled, or as victims of neglect, cruelty and exploitation.

Each day millions of children suffer from the scourges of poverty and economic crisis, from hunger and homelessness, from epidemics and illiteracy, from degradation of the environment. They suffer from the grave effects of the problems of external indebtedness and also from the lack of sustained and sustainable growth in many developing countries, particularly the least developed ones.

Each day 40,000 children die from malnutrition and disease, including acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), from the lack of clean water and inadequate sanitation and from the effects of the drug problem.

These are challenges that we, as political leaders, must meet.

The Opportunity

Together, our nations have the means and the knowledge to protect the lives and to diminish enormously the suffering of children, to promote the full development of their human potential and to make them aware of their needs, rights and opportunities. The conclusion on the Rights of the Child provide a new opportunity to make respect for children's rights and welfare truly universal.

Recent improvements in the international political climate can facilitate this task through international cooperation and solidarity it should now be possible to achieve long-term results in many fields — to revitalize economic growth and development, to protect the environment, to prevent the spread of fatal and crippling diseases and to achieve greater social and economic justice. The current moves towards disarmament also mean that significant resources could be released for purposes other than military uses. Improving the well-being of children must be a very high priority when these resources are reallocated.

The Task

Enhancement of children's health and nutrition is a first duty, and also a task for which substantial aid can within reach. The lives of tens of thousands of boys and girls can be saved every day, because the causes of these deaths are readily preventable. Child and infant mortality is unacceptably high in many parts of the world, but can be lowered dramatically with means that are already known and easily accessible.

Further attention, care and support should be accorded to disabled children, as well as to other children in very difficult circumstances.

Strengthening the role of women in general and ensuring their equal rights will be to the advantage of the world's children. Girls must be given equal treatment and opportunities from the very beginning.

At present, over 100 million children are without basic schooling, and two-thirds of them are girls. The provision of basic education and literacy for all are among the most important contributions that can be made to the development of the world's children.

Half a million mothers die each year from causes related to childbirth. Safe motherhood must be progressed in all possible ways. Emphasis should be placed on responsible planning of family size and on child spacing. The family as a fundamental group and natural environment for the growth and well-being of children, should be given all necessary protection and assistance.

All children must be given the chance to find their identity and realize their worth in a safe and supportive environment, through families and other care-givers committed to their well-being. They must be prepared for an equitable life in a free society. They should, from their early years, be encouraged to participate in the cultural life of their societies.

Economic conditions will continue to influence greatly the fate of children, especially in developing societies. For the sake of the future of all children, it is urgently necessary to ensure or reactivate sustained and sustainable economic growth and development in all countries and also to continue to give urgent attention to an early, broad and durable solution to the external debt problems facing developing debtor countries.

These tasks require a continued and concerted effort by all nations, through national action and international cooperation.

Children in native costumes at the summit. From left were Joan Ert of Papua New Guinea, Rene Bruer of the United States, Margaret Gretarsdottir of Iceland, Julio Venegas of Nicaragua and Natalie Gardovetskaia of the Ukraine. The girl at right was unidentified.

The Commitment

The well-being of children requires political action at the highest level. We are determined to take that action.

We ourselves hereby make a solemn commitment to give high priority to the rights of children, to their survival and to their protection and development. This will also ensure the well-being of all societies.

We have agreed that we will act together, in international cooperation, as well as in our respective countries. We now commit ourselves to the following 10-point program to protect the rights of children and to improve their lives.

(1) We will work to promote earliest possible ratification and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Programs to encourage information about children's rights should be launched worldwide, taking into account the distinct cultural and social values in different countries.

(2) We will work for a solid effort of national and international action to enhance children's health, to promote pre-natal care and to avert infant and child mortality in all countries and among all peoples. We will promote the provision of clean water in all communities for all time children, as well as universal access to sanitation.

(3) We will work for optimal growth and development of childhood, through measures to eradicate hunger, malnutrition and famine, and thus to relieve millions of children of tragic sufferings in a world that has the means to feed all its citizens.

(4) We will work to strengthen the role and status of women. We will promote responsible planning of family size, child spacing, breastfeeding and safe motherhood.

(5) We will work for respect for the role of the family in providing for children and will support the efforts of parents, other caregivers and communities to nurture and care for children, from the earliest stages of childhood through adolescence. We also recognize the special needs of children who are separated from their families.

(6) We will work for programs that reduce illiteracy and provide educational opportunities for all children, irrespective of their background and gender, that prepare children for productive employment and lifelong learning opportunities, i.e. through vocational training, and that enable children to grow to adulthood within a supportive and nurturing cultural and social context.

(7) We will work to ameliorate the plight of millions of children who live under especially difficult circumstances — as victims of apartheid and foreign occupation, orphans and street children and children of migrant workers, the disabled and the abused, the social disadvantaged and the exploited. Refugee children must be helped to find new roots in life. We will work for special protection of the working child and for the abolition of illegal child labor. We will do our best to ensure that children are not drawn into becoming victims of the scourge of illicit drugs.

(8) We will work carefully to protect children from the scourges of war and to take measures to prevent further armed conflicts, in order to give children everywhere a peaceful and secure future. We will promote the values of peace, understanding and dialogue in the education of children. The essential needs of children and families must be protected even in times of war and in violence-ridden areas. We ask that periods of tranquility and special relief corridors be observed for the benefit of children, where war and violence are still taking place.

(9) We will work for common measures for the protection of the environment, at all levels, so that all children can enjoy a safer and healthier future.

(10) We will work for a global attack on poverty, which would have immediate benefits for children's welfare. The vulnerability and special needs for the children of the developing countries, and in particular the least developed ones, deserve priority. But growth and development need promotion in all states, through national action and international cooperation. That calls for transfers of appropriate additional resources to developing countries as well as improved terms of trade, further trade liberalization and measures for debt relief. It also implies structural adjustments that promote world economic growth, particularly in developing countries, while ensuring the well-being of the most vulnerable sectors of the populations, in particular, the children.

The Next Steps

The World Summit for Children has presented us with a challenge to take action. We have agreed to take up that challenge.

Among the partnerships we seek, we turn especially to children themselves. We appeal to them to participate in this effort.

We also seek the support of the United Nations system, as well as other international and regional organizations, in the universal effort to promote the well-being of children. We ask for greater involvement on the part of non-governmental organizations, to complementing national efforts and joint international action in this field.

We have decided to adopt and implement a Plan of Action, as a framework for more specific national and international undertakings. We appeal to all our colleagues to endorse that Plan. We are prepared to make available the resources to meet these commitments, as part of the priorities of our national plans.

We do this not only for the present generation, but for all generations to come. There can be no task nobler than giving every child a better future.

* * *

Action at the National Level

(1) All Governments are urged to prepare, before the end of 1991, national programs of action to implement the commitments undertaken in the World Summit Declaration and this Plan of Action. National Governments should encourage and assist provincial and local governments as well as NGO's, the private sector and civic groups to prepare their own programs of action to help to implement the goals and objectives included in the Declaration and this Plan of Action.

(2) Each country is encouraged to review in the context of its national plans, programs and policies, how it might accord higher priority to programs for the well-being of children in general, and for meeting over the 1990s the major goals for child survival, development and protection as expressed in the World Summit Declaration and this Plan of Action.

(3) Each country is urged to re-examine in the context of its particular national situation, its current national budget, and in the case of donor countries, their development assistance budgets, to ensure that programs aimed at the achievement of goals for the survival, protection and development of children will have a priority when resources are allocated. Every effort should be made to ensure that such programs are protected in times of economic austerity and structural adjustments.

* * *

(5) Each country should establish appropriate mechanisms for the regular and timely collection, analysis and publication of data required to monitor relevant social indicators relating to the well-being of children — such as neonatal, infant and under 5 mortality rates, maternal mortality and fertility rates, nutritional levels, immunization coverage, morbidity rates of diseases of public health importance, school enrollment and achievement and literacy rates — which record the progress being made towards the goals set forth in this Plan of Action and corresponding national plans of action. Statistics should be disaggregated by gender to ensure that any inequitable impact of programs on girls and women can be monitored and corrected.

* * *

The following goals have been formulated through extensive consultation in various international forums attended by virtually all Governments, the relevant United Nations agencies including the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and a large number of NGO's. These goals are commended for implementation by all countries where they are applicable, with appropriate adaptation to the specific situation of each country in terms of phasing, standards, priorities and availability of resources, with respect for cultural, religious and social traditions. Additional goals that are particularly relevant to a country's specific situation should be added to its national plan of action.

I. MAJOR GOALS FOR CHILD SURVIVAL, DEVELOPMENT AND PROTECTION

(a) Between 1990 and the year 2000, reduction of infant and under 5 child mortality rate by one-third or to 50 and 70 per 1,000 live births respectively, whichever is less.

(b) Between 1990 and the year 2000, reduction of maternal mortality rate by half.

(c) Between 1990 and the year 2000, reduction of severe and moderate malnutrition among under 5 children by half.

(d) Universal access to safe drinking water and to sanitary means of excreta disposal.

(e) By the year 2000, universal access to basic education and completion of primary education by at least 80 per cent of primary school age children.

(f) Reduction of the adult illiteracy rate (the appropriate age group to be determined in each country) to at least half its 1990 level with emphasis on female literacy.

(g) Improved protection of children in especially difficult circumstances.

II. SUPPORTING/HEALTH GOALS

A. Women's Health and Education

(i) Special attention to the health and nutrition of the female child and to pregnant and lactating women.

(ii) Access by all couples to information and services to prevent pregnancies that are too early, too closely spaced, too late or too many.

(iii) Access by all pregnant women to prenatal care, trained attendants during childbirth and referral facilities for high-risk pregnancies and obstetric emergencies.

(iv) Universal access to primary education with special emphasis for girls and access to related literacy programs for women.

B. Nutrition

(i) Reduction in severe, as well as moderate malnutrition among under 5 children by half of 1990 levels.

(ii) Reduction of the rate of low birth weight (2.5 kg or less) to less than 10 percent.

(iii) Reduction of iron deficiency anaemia in women by one-third of the 1990 levels.

(iv) Virtual elimination of iodine deficiency disorders.

(v) Virtual elimination of vitamin A deficiency and its consequences, including blindness.

(vi) Empowerment of all women to breastfeed their children exclusively for four to six months and to continue breast-feeding, with complementary food, well into the second year.

(vii) Growth promotion and its regular monitoring to be institutionalized in all countries by the end of the 1990s.

(viii) Dissemination of knowledge and supporting services to increase food production to ensure household food security.

C. Child Health

(i) Global eradication of poliomyelitis by the year 2000.

(ii) Elimination of neonatal tetanus by 1995.

(iii) Reduction by 95 percent in measles deaths and reduction by 90 percent of measles cases compared to pre-immunization levels by 1995, as a major step to the global eradication of measles in the longer run.

(iv) Maintenance of a high level of immunization coverage (at least 90 percent of children under one year of age by the year 2000) against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, measles, poliomyelitis, tuberculosis and against tetanus for women of child-bearing age.

(v) Reduction by 50 percent in the deaths due to diarrhoea in children under the age of five years and 25 percent reduction in the diarrhoea incidence rate.

(vi) Reduction by one-third in the deaths due to acute respiratory infections in children under five years.

D. Water and Sanitation

(i) Universal access to safe drinking water.

(ii) Universal access to sanitary means of excreta disposal.

(iii) Elimination of guinea-worm disease (dracunculiasis) by the year 2000.

E. Basic Education

(i) Expansion of early childhood development activities, including appropriate low-cost family- and community-based interventions.

(ii) Universal access to basic education and achievement of primary education by at least 80 percent of primary school-age children through formal schooling or non-formal education of comparable learning standard, with emphasis on reducing the current disparities between boys and girls.

(iii) Reduction of the adult illiteracy rate (the appropriate age group to be determined in each country) to at least half of its 1990 level, with emphasis on female literacy.

(iv) Increased acquisition by individuals and families of the knowledge, skills and values required for better living, made available through all educational channels, including the mass media, other forms of modern and traditional communication and social action, with effectiveness measured in terms of behavioral change.

F. Children in Difficult Circumstances

Provide improved protection of children in especially difficult circumstances and tackle the root causes leading to such situations.

USA Today

INQUIRY

Topic: SAVING CHILDREN

James Grant, 68, is executive director of the United Nation's Children's Fund. Prior to joining UNICEF in 1980, Grant, a former foreign service officer, served as president of the Overseas Development Council. Grant is serving as the secretariat for the World Summit For Children that will be held at the United Nations in September. He was interviewed by ***USA TODAY's*** *editorial board.*

James Grant

40,000 children die needlessly every day

USA TODAY: About 40,000 children die every day around the world. How many of those could be saved?

GRANT: The biggest obscenity in the world is that two-thirds of them die from causes that are readily preventable at low costs.

USA TODAY: For instance?

GRANT: Today, about 8,000 will die because they don't have enough vaccines in them to prevent against six diseases. Another 7,000 will die because their parents do not know how to do deal with the dehydration from diarrhea that is the single biggest killer of children in the world. Another 7,000 will die because they don't have a dollar's worth of antibiotics when they come down with acute respiratory infections. Nearly another 1,000 children will go blind today because they didn't have access to 20 cents worth of vitamin A.

USA TODAY: What then is the biggest barrier to saving lives?

GRANT: The real challenge is to inform the families. We have learned that if you can capture the media — print, radio, television — if you can get the priests and the school teachers involved, that in a relatively short time, you can go from 10% immunization to up to 90%, immunization in a few years. The out-of-pocket cost is relatively small.

USA TODAY: What's being done?

GRANT: Last November, the United Nations adopted a resolution — the Convention on the Rights of the Child — but it doesn't come into any legal effect until 20 countries have ratified it. This is the year to try to get the 20 countries to ratify. A summit meeting of world leaders in September is designed to give it a big push. The summit also will put the spotlight on some problems that need more attention: AIDS, drugs, the debt crisis for Latin America and Africa which impacts heavily on the poor.

USA TODAY: What do you mean by "the rights of the child"?

GRANT: At the end of the summit, we hope the world society would adopt the principle that children should have a first call on the resources of society that are essential for their survival, development, protection. These are the broad goals. Giving children a future and overcoming these 40,000 deaths a day is a measure of our society, our culture, our civilization.

USA TODAY: Are there spinoff benefits from helping children?

GRANT: No country in the world has managed to cope with its population explosion until it has dramatically reduced its child death rates so that parents are reasonably sure that their children will survive. When that happens, birth rates plummet everywhere in the world.

USA TODAY: What countries give their children first call on their resources?

GRANT: If you look at Japan, Korea, Singapore, and post-war Europe, these countries have given greater attention to the health and education of their children than any society in modern history. They put it up front, and it has not been at the cost of their economic development.

USA TODAY: And in the USA?

GRANT: When you look at New York City, you see 40% of children living in families below the poverty line, and the safety net for those children is weaker today than it was 10 years ago. We have on top of that the problem of AIDS and drugs. That's why New York Mayor Dinkins is holding mini-summits to go along with the world summit to cope with problems of children in New York. It is a global problem, as well as a U.S. problem.

USA TODAY: What will be President Bush's role in this world summit?

GRANT: Presidents Bush and Gorbachev indicated they would like to be part of the planning, which is being done by 30 countries. If Bush were to announce now that he was coming, it would be a major way for America to give leadership for the world.

USA TODAY: How much of an investment is needed by countries, such as the USA, to begin fighting the health crisis?

GRANT: To reduce the world death toll of children from 40,000 a day to half of that in the '90s would mean an additional investment of about $2.5 billion a year by the mid-'90s. A majority would come from developing countries themselves, and a third or more from the industrial world.

USA TODAY: That is a lot of money at a time of huge U.S. budget deficits?

GRANT: It is what U.S. tobacco companies spend on advertising in the U.S. in one year. It is what the Russians spend on vodka in one month. And it is less than what the world spends on arms in one day. At a time when the Cold War is easing dramatically, it should be possible.

USA TODAY: How does the revamping of society underway in Eastern Europe affect the well-being of children there?

GRANT: The Soviet Union thought they were doing well by children. But as they have gone through *perestroika* and *glasnost*, they have found themselves on the infant mortality list, down to No. 50 in the world. The USA has shifted down from No. 8 or 9 20 years ago to No. 20 or 21 today. There have been some big aberrational black holes, such as with the abuse of orphans in Romania. As societies revamp, there is a a great danger that existing safety nets for children and mothers will get lost in the shuffle unless there is a spotlight on them.

USA TODAY: For example?

GRANT: In China when they made the shift in the early '80s from the communist system in the rural areas, to the more or less open market farming system, over two-thirds of the preschools closed in two years. A quarter of the doctors vanished as they moved from being a communist-supported system to a service system. Prenatal care was virtually reduced by half in the rural areas.

USA TODAY: What was the major shortcoming affecting children in the Soviet Union?

GRANT: In the Soviet Union, there were a number of things. One was that abortion became the primary method of family planning. And there were some six to seven abortions per woman. And this affected the situation of giving birth to children. Secondly, in the '70s and early '80s, as the purchasing power went up, there was a lack of goods, and consumption of alcohol in the Soviet Union went up tremendously. And this impacts on pregnant women. Also cigarette smoking went up tremendously. And third, the Soviet Union, which has pioneered in many ways in the late '20s and '30s, '40s and '50s mass health systems, became very rigid.

USA TODAY: Why do we have such a problem in the USA when the country is so rich compared to the rest of the world?

GRANT: In the United States, it is a fact that we have not found an effective technique for pulling our pregnancies and our young children into the health system for a sizeable part of society. It is noteworthy that the highest child mortality in the United States is in Washington, D.C., which is one of the wealthiest per capita. But the democratic countries tend to have very much lower infant mortality rates than most others.

150 million to die in '90s

Worldwide, children are dying at alarming rates — most in Third World countries. According to UNICEF, many of those fortunate enough to survive, live amid malnutrition and disease. Among the facts prompting UNICEF to organize a World Summit for Children:

Each day:

- 8,000 children die from preventable diseases like measles, whooping cough and tetanus.
- 7,000 die from dehydration.
- 8,000 die from pneumonia, which can be treated by low-cost antibiotics.

At this rate, 150 million children will die in the course of the 1990s.

Only half the children in the developing world have access to clean drinking water, and fewer have access to sanitary waste disposal facilities.

Nearly 100 million children of primary school age are not taking part in any education program.

In the United States, one of four children is born into welfare.

INTERVIEW

The Children's Summit

James Grant is executive director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). He spoke with NEWSWEEK's *Anne Underwood about The World Summit for Children, which will take place this week at the United Nations.*

James Grant

JACQUES CHENET—NEWSWEEK

The head of UNICEF says that 40,000 children die each day—and that we have the technology to save two of every three

UNDERWOOD: More than 70 world leaders will attend this summit, making it the largest meeting of heads of state and government in history. Why is this issue so compelling?

GRANT: I think it reflects the new era that we're moving into with the end of the cold war, realizing that the threats are not just [military]. Yesterday 10,000 children died because of the consequences of diarrhea. Another 7,000 children died yesterday because they were not vaccinated against preventable diseases. We have the technology to prevent two thirds of the 40,000 child deaths that take place each *day*. The writer Primo Levi said, once we know how to reduce torment and do not do it, we become the tormentors.

What do you hope will come out of the summit?

The first purpose of the summit is to focus on doing the doable—preventing thousands of deaths that take place because the children don't have a dollar's worth of vaccine or because the parents don't know how to make a simple sugar-saltwater solution to combat dehydration. The second purpose is to put the spotlight on problems that require urgent attention in other forums because we don't know how to deal with them that easily—drugs, AIDS, the impact of the debt crisis, the problems of street children, children in war. The third purpose is to accelerate the ratification and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which was adopted by the General Assembly last November and entered force this Sept. 2 upon ratification by 20 countries. By [last week], 38 countries had ratified it, so already we're seeing a payoff from the summit, because clearly people want to come to the summit showing that they are committed. This is the only human-rights convention ever to be ratified in less than a year.

Can the problems of children be solved by heads of state, or do they depend on individual responses from parents and educators?

What more potent group is there than presidents, kings and prime ministers? I recently visited Bangladesh. In 1986, when we spoke to President [Hossain Mohammad] Ershad about vaccine-preventable diseases, less than 2 percent of the children of Bangladesh were fully immunized against these six diseases—polio, measles, diphtheria, tetanus, tuberculosis and whooping cough. Ershad committed the country to reaching our worldwide goal of 80 percent immunization by December 1990. Now Bangladesh is past the 70 percent point, and a higher proportion of 1-year-olds in Bangladesh are fully immunized than in New York.

You know how they did this? They took the decision to mobilize all the existing channels, so that three minutes of prime-time TV and radio each day are devoted to health spots focusing on children. Big businesses place the message on billboards, pedicabs carry the message, the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts have merit badges for passing a test on immunization, the Swedish match company put the message in Bengali on every box of matches. You go to a cricket game, and you will see painted on the fields in eight-foot-high letters: IMMUNIZE YOUR CHILD TODAY.

How have children been affected by the world debt crisis?

Tremendously. The massive borrowings in developing countries in the 1970s went to benefit those who were already well off in those societies. Now that the debt has to be repaid, the worst of the burden has fallen on the weak and vulnerable in the society, of which children are clearly the most vulnerable. Thousands of deaths have resulted. But death is only the worst manifestation of the problems affecting children. For example, in addition to being a cause of death, measles is also one of the world's greatest causes of malnutrition. A child loses his appetite for a substantial period of time and loses a lot of body weight, so that child is pulled way down the nutrition chain and becomes vulnerable.

How serious is the problem of AIDS among children?

If we don't break the present trend, by the year 2000 there will be half a million children under the age of 5 dying each year in 10 east and central African countries alone—and, I should add, half a million mothers dying from AIDS. By that time there will probably be between 3 million and 5 million AIDS orphans. But you've got to remember that in the next 10 years the number of children that would die of dehydration from diarrhea is far greater.

Is there sufficient political will to tackle all these problems?

The key to getting this summit was not UNICEF, but the work of Brian Mulroney of Canada, Benazir Bhutto of Pakistan, Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, Carlos Salinas de Gortari of Mexico, Moussa Traoré of Mali and Ingvar Carlsson of Sweden. Now we have the biggest gathering of world leaders in history—for *children*. It's a miracle. That shows will.

Especially for kids and their families

The Mini Page®

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HOUSTON CHRONICLE Saturday, September 29, 1990 PAGE 1

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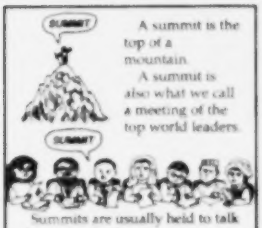
The World Summit for Children

A Big Meeting About Kids



A summit is the top of a mountain.

A summit is also what we call a meeting of the top world leaders.

Summits are usually held to talk about such problems as weapons control, the environment and world money matters.

However, on Sept. 29-30, the largest summit ever will be held.

For the first time, a summit will be all about children.

President Bush is planning to attend.

At the World Summit for Children, the heads of countries from around the world will meet. They will discuss how they can work together to improve the lives of kids everywhere.

Kids who live in poor, developing countries especially need help.

Developing countries are in Asia, Africa and Latin America. These countries are also called Third World countries.

According to experts at the United Nations, 40,000 kids in developing countries die every day. Many die from diseases that could have been prevented by spending less than a dollar on health care for each child.

Some of the health needs the leaders will discuss:

A mother and daughter in Guinea in west Africa on their daily rounds to get water.

Immunizations

We take for granted the shots we get that help prevent diseases. Many kids around the world don't have this advantage. They aren't protected from diseases such as polio and measles.

Better nutrition

Parents need to learn about the best food for their kids.

arrhea

ch year millions of children die use they get dehydrated from rhea (dy-uh-REE-uh). It is ed by drinking and eating ste water and food. It can be ed by drinking fluids and g special salts that cost only 10 s for each treatment.

Houston Chronicle

LIVING G

CHILDREN OF WAR

Ragged young refugees forage, live in streets

Lighting candles around the world in vigil for the kids

The Plain Dealer

Children

Vigil

The Plain Dealer

The Plain Dealer

THE MIAMI HERALD

War and Poverty Taking Their Toll

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador — Victor Raul Carranza, 18, stepped on a land mine on April 18. His lower right leg is missing. Little volcanoes surrounded by red lava flows run the length of his left leg. He is one of many young men with hideous wounds in the surgical ward of the Military Hospital.

Lt. Col. Fernando Moreira Mendoza looks down the line of beds on a rainy Monday night. When the war started in 1979, he says, most injuries were gunshots. Then, in 1984, when guerrillas began using mines, amputations increased.

"They use a small mine made of a juice can, with iron filings, explosive and feces," says Dr. Moreira. "When it explodes, the feces contaminate wounds. Most of the legs could be saved if it weren't for infections."

In Nicaragua, El Salvador and Guatemala, a decade of civil war has left 200,000 people dead and 2 million displaced or living as refugees in Central America, half of whom are children under age 16. In Honduras, the economy's collapse has left 1.6 million people without jobs, and seven of 10 people live in poverty; in the winter, 60 poor Honduran children die every day.

War has left 18,600 children wounded or disabled in Nicaragua. It has closed 400 schools in El Salvador. It has left 5,000 orphans and 2,000 widows in just one of the 64 cantons or counties of Guatemala.

But war is not the only affliction here.

Basic government services, such as clean water and sewers, schools and health-care facilities, already crippled by war, now must cope with burgeoning population growth and economic decline.

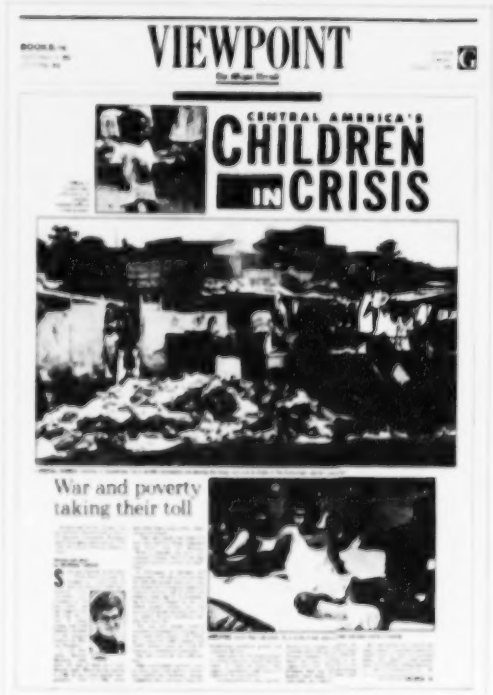
Today there are 30 million people in Central America; nearly half are under 15. And the future? The region's population could reach 52 million by the year 2010.

I accompanied six other journalists on a tour of these countries. We traveled with officials of the United Nations Children's Fund, UNICEF, which has been working in the region since 1951. We went to see firsthand what war and increasing poverty have meant to those most vulnerable, the children.

We rode horses into rural El Salvador, where community volunteers walked door to door to vaccinate babies. We talked to child prostitutes and children sniffing shoemaker's glue in Guatemala City. We went to communities of indigenous people in the highlands of Guatemala, where military informers surrounded us as we talked to orphans and widows weaving cloth. We roamed Managua's work slum, the Oriental Market, where children live in squalor behind sales stalls. We listened to the Honduran National Congress discuss the U.N. Convention for the Rights of the Child after pushing through crowds of children begging at the airport.

The region's new presidents are working to revive their failing economies and, with peace in Nicaragua and negotiations underway in El Salvador and Guatemala, there are hopes of diverting resources from the military to social needs. But the odds are staggering, and prospects for the future of these children remain grim indeed.

A World Summit for Children will be held Sept. 29 and 30 at the United Nations in New York, with assistance from UNICEF. President Bush and the heads of some 70 governments are scheduled to attend. The aim is to focus on child survival problems, including health, immunization and education, and to set standards to protect them from the degradations of war, physical and sexual abuse, and child labor . . .


VIEWPOINT

CENTRAL AMERICA'S CHILDREN IN CRISIS

War and poverty taking their toll

The Miami Herald

The Miami Herald

Children in crisis

A region's most vulnerable

A region's most vulnerable

North County Views

Planning a Legacy for the Future

North County

THE WORLD

Summit Calls For More Funding to Aid Children

The Christian Science Monitor

New Action for World's Children

SCHOLASTIC NEWS

A Plan for the 1990s

Vaccines Save Lives

Leaders Promise Kids A Better Life

What Kids Had to Say

Scholastic News

SCHOLASTIC NEWS

A World Summit Long Overdue

The Washington Post

FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

Strife and Fear Scar Youths in Central America

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — Too many children like Carlos roam the street of Central America alone. The 10-year-old with glassy eyes is a victim of war. Carlos has been separated from his parents since they fled their town, a battleground for Contras and Sandinista troops before last year's negotiated settlement. He sleeps at a different spot each night in a Managua market, the Mercado Oriental. The young Nicaraguan who would give no further identification wears rummaged cast-offs — two left shoes, a filthy oversized sweater — and steals his food as well as the glue that he sniffs, he says, "for courage."

Such stories are common in Central America, where regional wars have compounded decades of instability, delaying much-needed social measures and impeding development programs necessary to break Central America's grinding cycle of poverty.

About 2 million Central Americans are living as refugees or displaced persons in the region — roughly half of them children under 14, according to a recent United Nations Children's Fund report. In Nicaragua, 180,000 children — one out of 10 — have been displaced by war.

"An entire generation has grown up in a culture of violence and fear," UNICEF said of the region's children. The agency is sponsoring a world summit on children's issues Sept. 29-30 at U.N. headquarters in New York. President Bush and the leaders of Central America's seven countries — Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama — have promised to attend.

Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani says his country's youths remain a top national priority.

"Children are the future, so taking care of them is of utmost importance," he told a group of American journalists researching the effects of war on children.

War still plagues El Salvador, has halted for now in Nicaragua, is on-again, off-again in Guatemala. Honduras, the region's poorest state and closest U.S. ally, has had to absorb a crushing influx of war refugees from neighboring countries.

In El Salvador, teen-age victims have fought on both sides in a civil war that has raged 10 years with no end in sight.

Marciel Portillo was recuperating in the main military hospital in El Salvador this summer. Forcibly recruited at age 15, Portillo is now 17 and waiting for a prosthesis to replace his amputated right leg.

Said Monsignor Ricardo Urioste, vicar general of the San Salvador Archdiocese of the Roman Catholic Church, "It is dangerous to be a teenager in El Salvador."

In Guatemala City, a 13-year-old war refugee name Reina plies her trade as a prostitute. With childlike gaiety she weaves her way through the crowd on a downtown bridge across from the main bus depot.

Occasionally she grabs at a passing stranger.

"I can be your friend . . . If you like, I can be your friend," she calls out. Her tone is much the same as that of vendors hawking wares on the pavement of Guatemala City.

UNICEF's work in the strife-torn region ranges from vaccinating children against life-threatening disease to acting as advocate for those too young to fend for themselves.

Along the 20-mile drive from the San Salvador airport, cliffs are decorated with hand-painted signs as part of a UNICEF-sponsored graffiti campaign to protect children in a country at war.

"The Child Has a Right to Love," one says. Another gives practical advice, warning youngsters against picking up juice cans that could contain homemade bombs.

Costa Rica — which has enjoyed a measure of political stability since the late 1940s, when it disbanded its army — shows what can be accomplished, U.N. officials said. Its infant mortality rate is lower than that of New York City . . .

Fort Worth Star-Telegram

WE WERE FOR THE CHILDREN

Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Guatemalan street youths live life of beatings, hunger, drugs

Youths such as this 14-year-old inhale glue for courage

Fort Worth Star-Telegram

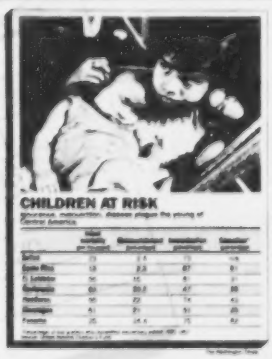
'War is the common thread running through the countries, and children pay the biggest price.'

Strife and fear scar youths in Central America

Children of War

Marciel Portillo awaits a prosthesis for his leg at a San Salvador military hospital.

The Washington Times



Children victims of Central American chaos

t of hope: Three girls standing dly in a vigil at St Paul's Cath- in London to draw attention to the plight of children all over the world. (From left) Lily Stonehouse and Alice Whitfield, both aged three, and Amber Lewis-Bat aged four, were among m participants in vigils held in countries last tion to the U Summit for ch

Media interest on the continent ranged from Sweden to Italy, from Spain to the Soviet Union as reporters gravitated to the story of the plight of children.

Major British newspapers which wrote extensively on the Summit included: *The Times, Sunday Times, The Economist, Financial Times, The Daily Telegraph, The Guardian, The European, Evening Standard, The Independent, Daily Mirror, Observer, Daily Star* and *Sunday Express*. *The Sunday Times Magazine* carried a nine-page article concentrating on child labour with colour photos, its lead story the day of the Summit. One of the most significant broadcasting achievements was the airing on prime time the night after the Summit of an hour-long programme "Tomorrow's Child", co-produced by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC-TV) and UNICEF. Other programmes about children's issues were run on BBC Radio, Independent Radio News (IRN), and Independent Television News (ITN).

In France, there was major coverage in *Le Monde, Le Figaro, Libération, Le Quotidien de Paris, France Soir* and *L'Humanité* in addition to special supplements in *L'Express, Le Figaro, Elle* and other national and regional specialized publications, including *Le Quotidien du Médecin* and *Le Point*. *L'Express* featured a number of young people between the ages of 9 and 17 giving their opinions on children's problems. The *International Herald Tribune* ran a special four-page sponsored section that was organized with the assistance of UNICEF. Radio and television usage included Radio France Internationale special programmes in French, English, Arabic and Portuguese and placement on national television of the UNICEF Summit video, "341".

In Germany, major articles appeared in six important papers following a telephone interview with Mr. Grant. The leading weekly, *Der Spiegel*, ran an eight-page article on children's problems around the world. The Italian press published numerous articles, with news on the activities of Prime Minister Andreotti and in-depth pieces on the situation of children. Notable coverage in Spain included a number of articles in *El País*, the country's largest newspaper.

Important media treatment was achieved in a number of other countries, among them Austria, Belgium, Finland, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland. In Denmark, a supplement of the main newspaper carried a front-page article with a colour photo. In Eastern Europe, leading publications and networks in Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Yugoslavia had extensive coverage. President Zhelio Zhelev of Bulgaria addressed the nation on children's issues the night of the Summit on the nationwide evening news, and Yugoslav television carried a special 30-minute programme on children the day after the gathering. In the USSR, *Pravda* and the *Literaturnaya Gazeta* were among the publications which carried articles.

Kärntner Tageszeitung
Kärntner Tageszeitung KTZ
Landtag behandelte Magdalen-Bericht
PANORAMA
Die Welt denkt über Kinder nach
Gipfel für Kinder

Austria

LE SOIR
Grèves à l'école : on passe à la vitesse supérieure
Un sommet pour sauver 50 millions d'enfants

Le Soir
Belgium

Hlas ľudu Czechoslovakia

Prezident V. Havel prehovoril na samite o deťoch

Bez hladu a vykorisťovania

NEW YORK (ČSTK) – „Počas posledných desaťročí som tisíckrát videl vo svojej krajine chvejúce zúrbené udajne v záujme detí", povedal včera v New Yorku a účastníkom svetového summitu o deťoch česko-slovenský prezident Václav Havel.

Prezident pripomenul aj iný pohnútku, ktorý v minulých týždňoch obletel svet „hrackého prezidenta Husajna hladiaceho deti svojich nepriateľov, ktoré – ako teraz povedal – sa chystá zastreliť".

„Koľko zla už bolo spáchaného v mene detí," povedal Václav Havel a pripomenul, že deň predtým si pripomenula Česko-slovenská protifašistická rezistencia Lidice ... ostrých v začiatkoch v dňoch nacistickej revolúcie.

Medzinárodné dohovor o právach dieťaťa, ktorý včera prezident Havel v mene Česko-Slovenska podpísal, je podľa jeho slov sice dobrý dokument, ale nemôže deti ochrániť pred tým, aby rodičia v ich mene a v ich záujme páchali zlo a tým ich de facto ubíjovali.

V sídle Organizácie Spojených národov v New Yorku včera vrcholila svetová konferencia za účasti 71 šéfov štátov sveta o podmienkach života detí a o ich ďalšom plánu, ako zlepšiť ich osud.

Práve dnes však vo svete zomrie rovnako ako každý iný deň 40 000 detí. Najmenej polovicu z nich možno celkom ľahko a bez väčších výdavkov zachrániť. Práve táto otrasná skutočnosť primäla vlády Egypta, Kanady, Mali, Mexika, Pakistanu a Švédska, aby vyzvali najvyšších predstaviteľov všetkých krajín sveta na stretnutie v New Yorku. Jeho jediným cieľom bolo poradiť sa o budúcnosti detí, a teda ľudstva.

Dohodu o právach dieťaťa prijalo 44. zasadanie Valného zhromaždenia OSN 20. novembra 1989 a nadobudla platnosť po ratifikácii dvadsiatimi štátmi 2. septembra tohto roku. Dohoda označovaná aj ako listina práv dieťaťa, má 54 článkov, ktoré vymedzujú práva každej osoby mladšej ako 18 rokov. Základom je filozofia, že je zabezpečiť pre každé dieťa právo na plnohodnotný rozvoj bez hladu a vykorisťovania a pri zabezpečovaní všetkých nevyhnutných potrieb. Listina práv sama osebe to nedosiahne, ale podpis pod ňou je významným záväzkom, že vlády sa budú o to usilovať.

Ďalším bodom programu, ktorý predchádzal oficiálnemu začiatku konferencie, bolo spoločné fotografovanie zúčastnených najvyšších predstaviteľov. Túto fotografiu, rovnako ako vlastnú vrcholnú konferenciu, budú jedinou z novinárk budúceho vydania Guinessovej knihy rekordov. Šéfredaktor vydania Mark Young k tomu povedal, že zhromaždenie 71 šéfov štátov alebo vlád na jednom mieste na premiérovanie jedinej otázky je celkom jasne svetovým rekordom.

Vyvrcholením včerajšieho programu prezidenta Václava Havla v New Yorku bolo stretnutie s americkým prezidentom Georgeom Bushom. Pred odletom do Viedne sa prezident zišiel aj so svojimi partnermi z Chile a Nikaraguy. Dnes skoro ráno prišiel do Prahy.

Hospodářské noviny Czechoslovakia

V. Havel se setkal s G. Bushem

Návrat ze světového summitu

Tisková beseda na ruzyňském letišti ● Navázány nové kontakty

Ke krátkému rozhovoru o aktuálních otázkách vzájemných vztahů došlo ještě v noci na pondělí ještě prezident ČSFR Václav Havel s prezidentem USA Georgem Bushem, jednání, které se uskutečnilo po skončení světového summitu o dětech se zúčastnili ministr zahraničních věcí Jiří Dienstbier, vedoucí Kanceláře prezidenta republiky Karel Schwarzenberk, ministr zahraničí USA James Baker, poradce amerického prezidenta pro otázky národní bezpečnosti Brent Scowcroft a další představitelé obou států.

George Bush prohlásil Václavu Havlovi za vlastnímu podpoře, kterou Československu poskytl americký Kongres, Mluvčí Bílého domu Martin Fitzwater citoval G. Bushe, jak řekl: «Jsme si vědomi oběti, které jste podpoře embarga přinesli, a jsme za to vděčni.» Podle mluvčího řekl americký prezident V. Havlovi, že Spojené státy mají velký zájem, aby se hospodářské reformy v Československu zdařily. Informoval jej rovněž, že americká vláda naši ekonomické politice československých diplomatů po Spojených státech, které platilo v minulosti. Americký diplomatik byl oblastně omezení v cestování po Československu.

■ pokračování na str. 3

Návrat ze světového summitu

■ dokončení ze str. 1

Po návratu do vlasti uspořádal V. Havel ještě v pondělí ráno na letišti Praha Ruzyně tiskovou besedu, na níž informoval novináře mj. o dalších podrobnostech svého rozhovoru s americkým prezidentem. Řekl, že ho seznámil s vnitropolitickým vývojem v naší zemi, o úspěchy, za něž považuje například svobodné volby, ale i s problémy, zejména ve vnějších ekonomických vztazích, jež mohou vážně ohrozit další vývoj naší ekonomiky. V. Havel potvrdil, že americký prezident opakovaně zdůraznil, že východoevropské země jsou i nadále jednou z priorit zahraniční politiky USA, a to i přes dočasné finanční potíže způsobené jednak problémy kolem amerického rozpočtu a jednak mimořádnými výdaji spojenými s krizí v Perském zálivu. Ohledně návštěvy G. Bushe v Československu čs. prezident uvedl, že současná mezinárodní situace nemožnuje zatím potvrdit její přesný termín.

Václav Havel rovněž připomněl velký ohlas světo vystoupení, a to slovy: «Na setkání v New Yorku jsem pronesl projev, sice v angličtině, ale zdá se, že mi přítomni rozuměli.» Dále hovořil o průběhu a významu summitu a o dvoustranných jednáních s předními světovými politiky. Pro hospodářské vztahy ČSFR by mohly být přínosem schůzky se saudskoarabským ministrem zahraničí Fajsalem ibn Saudem a venezuelským a honduraským prezidentem. Zdůraznil, že Venezuela má vážný zájem dodávat nám ropu výměnou za naše zboží, což potvrzuje skutečnost, že prezident této země byl na jednání důkladně připraven. Honduras zase počítá se splátkami dluhu Československu (zhruba 100 mil. USD) dodávkami kávy a dalších produktů.

Berlingske Tidende
Denmark

Børn lever på slumkvarterer, mandsalder. Foto: Unicef

Børn uden barndom

Stats- og regeringschefer skal til verdenskonference om børnenes vilkår

Af Elsa Cornelius

Første vaglte sorens tal.

Hvert år dør 13 millioner børn, før de når at blive 15 år.

130 millioner børn under fem år får ikke nok at spise.

100 millioner børn i verdensbyerne kommer aldrig i skole. De 60 millioner af dem er piger.

Andre 100 millioner børn kommer aldrig til at gøre større udvikling hjemme.

Hvorfor gør de ikke det?

Måske fordi de bliver arbejdsudnyttet i industrien.

Måske fordi de bliver solgt i krig som kanonføde.

Måske fordi de bliver ofre for 10 forskellige slags katastrofer.

Måske fordi familien mener, at det er bedre for barnet at gå på gaden.

Børn i 90'erne

Tallene er så store, at man næsten ikke kan forstå dem. Men man kan forsøge ikke ignorere dem.

Nu konfronteres de på hverdagsvis dem, der beskæftiger sig med børn. Den 29.-og 30. september vil hundrede FN-verdenskonference om fremtidens børn. Stater og regeringschefer fra hele verden vil samles i New York for at diskutere, hvad der skal gøres for at forbedre børnenes vilkår.

Målet med konferencen er at vække opmærksomheden mod verdens børn i 90'erne. Et andet mål er at få mange danske til at skrive under på den FN-konvention, som børnene retsgrundlag for deres rettigheder. Den er allerede underskrevet af 105 lande, deriblandt Danmark. Det ikke gjort det endelig, men er kun ugers tid, før verdenens første ratificeringsinstrument. Så skulle det være, gennemførelsesregler, som vores kongeriges lovgivning skal tilpasses.

Det er ikke nogen let opgave, for konventionen rummer 54 paragraffer og næsten 11 år undersøgelse, siden Polen i 1979 stillede forslag om den.

Hver dag dør tusinder af børn, siger man i Udenrigsministeriet. Så skulle det være grusomhedsvækst, om vores kongeriges lovgivning skal tilpasses, hvis konventionen siger. Konventionen skal de 54 paragraffer har næsten 11 år undersøgelse, siden Polen i 1979 stillede forslag om den.

Hver dag dør tusinder af børn. Hver tredje sekund dør et barn af underernæring. Hver dag dør 7400 børn af diarré og influenza. Andre 6000 børn dør hver dag af tuberkulose, meningitis og mæslinger og 6000 af helbredelige sygdomme.

De regelmæssige dør børn ikke af i deres voksliige verden. Her er Asda hvilke dage en af de tre børn med børn i familien. Men med den lavt Asda hvilke dag i Det- og Centralafrika, siger Unicef imorgenstid, at to en hvis million børn vil være døde af Aids i de to følgende årtier.

Hvert år dør 13 millioner børn, før de når at blive 15 år. Det vil blive omtalt allerede her ellers under forhåbens. Måske vil de være ofre for krig, hungersnød, underernæring og sygdomme, der kunne være forebygget med enkle midler.

Den gør børn i Libby, i krig. Børnene/ligbørnene med at fle krigen ved i FN-konventionen, hvorfaldet vil blive forvirrede, hvis forældrene er døde af Aids.

Børn i krig

Vi har mange børn med problemer i Danmark, men ikke mindst børn er ikke ofret for de store børn i andre verdensdele ved krig med.

Det gør børn i Libby, i krig. Børnene/ligbørnene med at fle krigen ved i FN-konventionen, hvorfaldet vil blive forvirrede, hvis forældrene er døde af Aids.

Et barn med overblik til at finde ugerlig af det mest forbudsbarnet verden. Afsnitig og enkleved. Foto: Unicef

100 millioner børn kommer aldrig i skole. Foto: Nordfoto

Et barn med overblik til at finde ugerlig af det mest forbudsbarnet verden. Afsnitig og enkleved. Foto: Unicef

Børn i krig og forbindelser om mange andre børn med krigsskrifter. Den forbinder også om børnepersonlighed – dem, der kvæler verden. Tusinder fra voksne dør af overdose er med til at krænke dem i gang. Dem forbinder om børn som gråsig dem. Mere voldsomt Libby med, at 40 millioner børn i Indien har lidelse arbejde. Mere med, at børn arbejder halvfulde ugen i Bangladesh. Kaffe i Nepal er 50.000 børn under 15 år halvfuldbeskæftigede, 16 a 17 timer/uge.

Andre børn bliver voldsomt – og gerne – som 12-16-årige, i siger Magne Rasmussen, som har undersøgt børn i hele verden for Unicef. 16 a børn i krig, ofrene regner her glemte af et særligt børnekommen over.

Mange af verdens børn ville ikke mange børnekom at se tilbage på.

Se side 3

Top-møde om børn

Også i dag dør 40.000 børn, af sult og sygdom de burde have været skånet for. Deres skæbne er eneste punkt på dagsordenen, når FN indkalder alverdens regeringer til krisemøde.

Gadedrenge i Bangkok 'arbejder' som narko-kurerer. Deres løn er en dåse lim, som de indånder for at blive 'høje'. — Foto: J L. Dugast/Sygma/Ifot.

PS side 6

Politiken
Denmark

Vestkysten
Denmark

Berlingske Tidende
Denmark

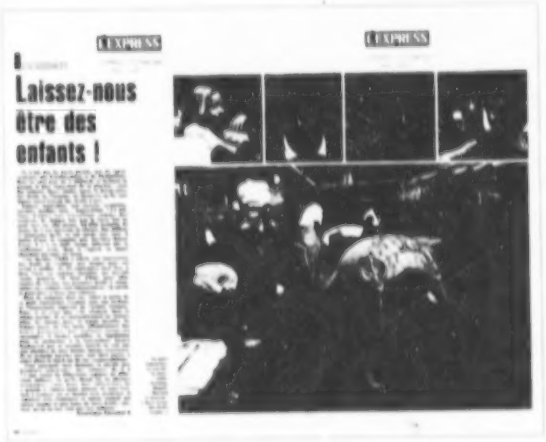
Rokkaa Rouva Presidentille!

Tellervo Koivisto lahjoitti kanoraha Unicefille ja lounasti Nigerin lasten auttamiseksi

Ilta-Sanomat
Finland

Ge barnet en röst
Hör sedan på den

Huvudstadsbladet
Finland



L'Express
France

L'EXPRESS

Give Us a Chance to Be Children

They have no spokesmen, no representatives, no embassies or delegations. But they number nearly 2 billion, and they form the most important nation on earth — the nation of children. Two centuries after the Declaration of the Rights of Man, we are discovering that children too deserve to have their own rights.

Children who have been mistreated, malnourished, exploited, regimented, mutilated, killed . . . Today 145 million of them are working like slaves. And each time the earth rotates on its axis, 40,000 human beings under the age of 5 die in silence. These numbers are so vast that they have lost their meaning unless we have the courage to remember that behind each one of them there is a little face distorted by suffering, with eyes that look at us with a haunting appeal.

Last year the United Nations proclaimed a Convention on the Rights of the Child, which every country is invited to ratify. On 30 September of this year a world summit, which some 70 heads of State are expected to attend, will be held in New York, to move [illegible] further ahead. The first rights of the child that are to be recognized are elementary: survival, and perhaps the [illegible] of childhood.

[illegible] surely nothing in common between the pain of a [illegible] Indonesian boy tottering under the burden he carries and the jaunty light-heartedness of the French schoolboy — nothing except that if they lived in the same world, they would realize that they have the same joys, the same games, the same identity. In France too, where we are officially observing the Children's Years-General until November, our legislation will have to be [illegible] in order to conform to the Convention . . .

In countless countries torn by war or crushed by poverty, the world of childhood and its values have been turned inside out. Unfortunately, the meeting of 70 heads of State will not have any miraculous power to stop all the slaughter and all the injustice.

One hundred million children will die of disease or malnutrition during the 1990s. "The world will scarcely notice their disappearance," UNICEF Executive Director James Grant said, without any illusions, a few weeks after the ratification of the Convention of the Rights of the Child by the United Nations. And how can one close one's eyes when, from Liberia to Lebanon, 200,000 boys aged 12 to 15 are fighting with weapons in their hands? How can we keep silent when 150 million children are forced to work in factories . . . or on the street?

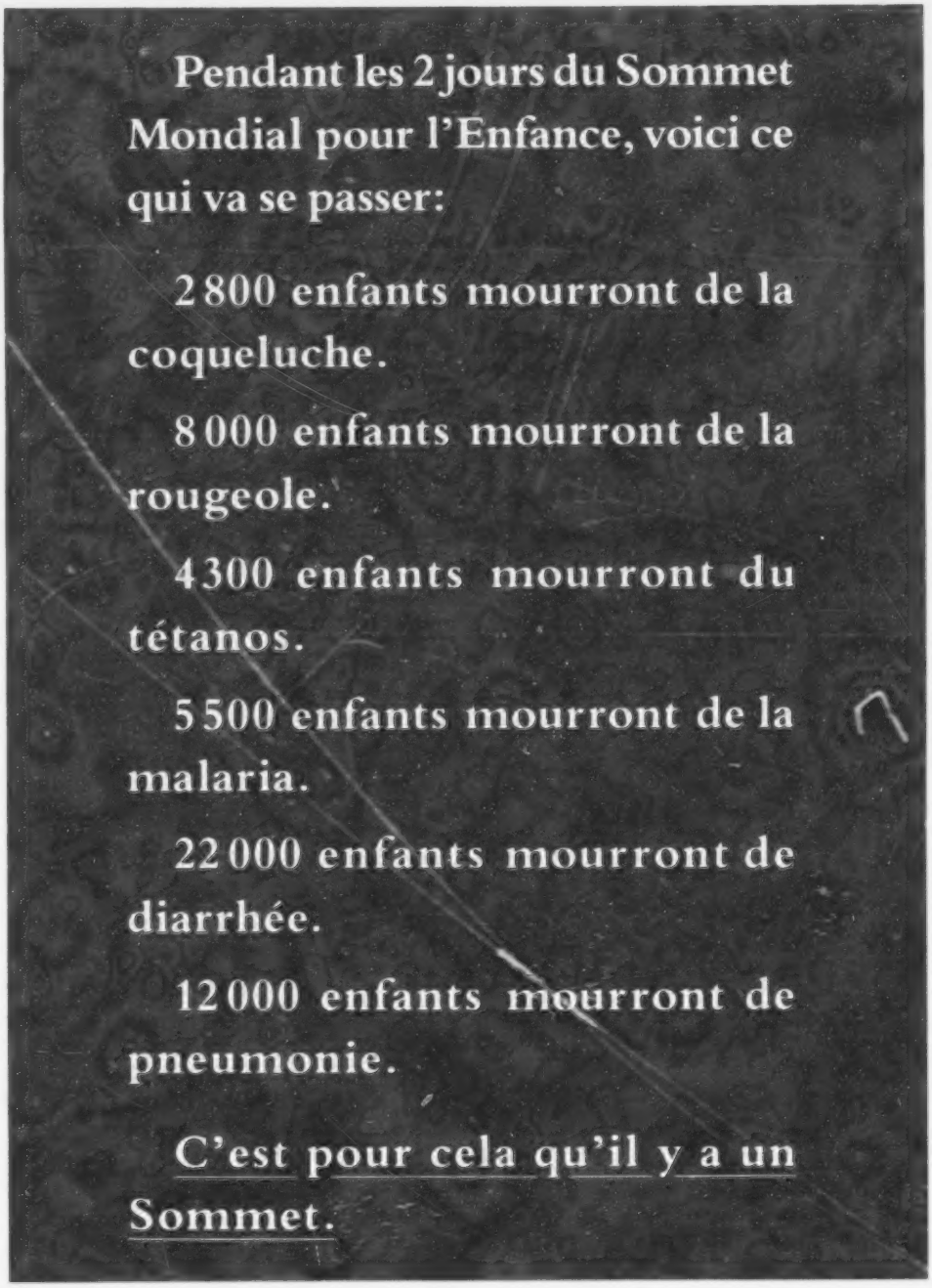
"If an Ethiopian woman has six children, she knows that she will probably lose four of them," remarks Dr. François Rémy, Chairman of the French Committee for UNICEF. Thus, one may wonder whether a family living in a particular country is not ultimately more willing to sacrifice a son for the homeland than to lose him to disease or malnutrition. In Mozambique or Angola, a father or mother may decide that, taken all in all, it is more glorious for his or her child to die "on the field of honour" than to die of dysentery on a miserable cot.

In these third-world countries, where a child's life is not valued so highly as in the West, there is a sickness which has become chronic. That sickness is the reason why no one gets too upset at the sight, in Cairo or in Lagos, of these ragged, barefoot children pulling their little wagons loaded with their shabby possessions. It is also what keeps parents in a shanty-town in Manila or Bangkok from responding with indignation when a brothel-keeper offers them money for the charms of their daughter or their son. And it is with this sickness that the old Sudanese man wordlessly buries the skeleton-like corpse of his little child who has died of famine . . .

Let us welcome the fact that the "grown-ups" of our planet have become aware of this problem, even if belatedly. It remains to be seen whether they can conquer this sickness, every bit as pernicious as indifference could be, a sickness known as "resignation" . . .

(translated excerpt)

L'Express
France


Pendant les 2 jours du Sommet Mondial pour l'Enfance, voici ce qui va se passer:
2 800 enfants mourront de la coqueluche.
8 000 enfants mourront de la rougeole.
4 300 enfants mourront du tétanos.
5 500 enfants mourront de la malaria.
22 000 enfants mourront de diarrhée.
12 000 enfants mourront de pneumonie.
C'est pour cela qu'il y a un Sommet.

L'Express
France

DONATED MESSAGE

Children in the 1990s

Six Specific Measures to Save the Young

No famine, no drought, no natural disaster has ever killed 40,000 children in a single day, yet preventable disease and malnutrition are killing that many every day — unnecessarily, says the director of UNICEF.

Continued on Page 11

The First World Summit for Children

With over 70 presidents and prime ministers expected to attend, the first World Summit for Children, to be held September 29-30 at the UN headquarters in New York, may be the largest-ever gathering of world leaders.

Worldwide, 14 million children die each year

Continued on Page 16

Bewildered Refugees in Transitory Desert Camps

In the past two months, more than [illegible],000 refugees have been repatriated from Iraq and Kuwait through Jordan. An international aid effort has so far avoided a major tragedy. A mid-September report.

Continued on Page 16

International Herald Tribune
France

International Herald Tribune
France

Back to Basics: Health
And Education for All
half billion children will be born in the
e. For millions of them, life will mean
more than the struggle to stay alive.

International Herald Tribune
France

INTERNATIONAL
Herald Tribune
Published With The New York Times and The Washington Post

A Summit for Children

Summit meetings have come to mean a gathering of powers to discuss their military and political agendas. A wholly different but still vitally important summit meeting will be held this week when more than 70 heads of state come together at the United Nations in an effort to save the world's most neglected resource: children. The World Summit for Children aims to commit national leaders to meet the health, education and other needs of children in the next decade. And President George Bush can play a key role.

Every day about 40,000 children die from preventable diseases like measles, whooping cough, tetanus, pneumonia and diarrheal dehydration. Even if children survive these threats, they may later be exposed to hazardous working conditions arising from ineffective or nonexistent child labor laws. And an inadequate education may doom them to lifelong illiteracy.

With a little money and attention, many of these problems could be remedied. Sachets of oral rehydration salts cost about 10 cents each; vaccines to fully immunize a child cost about $1.50. Unicef, the United Nations Children's Fund, estimates that most of the world's children could be saved from death and malnutrition at a cost of $2.5 billion a year. And universal primary education could be achieved for an additional $5 billion each year.

It is up to the wealthier nations to lead the campaign. Mr. Bush could pledge an additional $300 million a year for the next decade to fight disease and hunger — about one-eighth of the total needed for that purpose. That is a large sum, given the oppressive federal budget deficit, but it is in line with America's historical share of global aid to developing countries.

President Bush could also show that he means business by attending to America's own unfinished agenda of children's issues, like reducing the infant mortality rate and expanding Head Start.

Dramatic political changes around the world now make it possible for children to have a "first call" on the attention and resources of world leaders. By ensuring that their smallest constituents enjoy healthier, happier lives, these leaders can help ensure a brighter world future.

— *THE NEW YORK TIMES*

What the Children Might Say

By Perdita Huston

GLAND, Switzerland — If the limousines carrying delegates to the summit meeting this weekend at the United Nations in New York were to deliver up children instead of heads of state, how different the message might be.

Pronouncements at this World Summit for Children about vaccinations and diarrhea control might turn out to be low on the children's list of priorities. They might instead denounce "the disease" eating away at their childhood. Maybe the children would tell the world that they do not exist in a vacuum, that they belong to families, and that these families suffer from an indecent disregard for the poor. They might say something like:

"We children are not a separate category. If you are serious about child well-being, then please pay attention to our families, those who bring us into the world, those who provide for us, those upon whom we depend, and whose lives are defined by daily crisis.

"One-third of our mothers are the sole breadwinners of our families, yet they have no opportunity for training. For every woman living in poverty, there are four dependent children. Our mothers are exhausted by their crushing daily tasks and too many pregnancies. few have access to health or family planning services. Our mothers and sisters count for two-thirds of the world's illiterates. Three hundred million women who want to plan their pregnancies — so that we are "wanted" children — do not have access to contraceptives. 500,000 die in giving life each year, leaving us to fend for ourselves.

"You speak of diarrheic salts for child survival at a few cents a day. But the real problem is one of prevention, not therapy. And in this

MEANWHILE

case that means clean water. Our mothers spend much of their time searching for and carrying water.

"And if our mothers purify the water by boiling it, they face a major fuel crisis — not of oil but of wood, the fuel upon which a billion human beings depend to cook their food. Desertification is progressing in lands on which 150 million people live; the fuel-wood crisis of the poor is a silent energy crisis, undermining the health and well-being of millions of families.

"Some of our mothers are so desperate they tell us to leave our woman of cardboard and sticks, believing that we will have a better chance of surviving on our own. Thirty millions of us roam city streets attempting to scrape out a living.

"Our sisters, stunted in growth and pushed by hunger and family responsibilities, often resort to selling themselves — their bodies and their labor — to tourists, soldiers or wealthy families who see no shame in exploiting children or denigrating women.

"As you debate how to save our lives, reflect also on what you might do to give us dignity and hope. We welcome the World Summit for Children and the new Convention on the Rights of the Child. But we suggest that another convention, that of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, which is now 10 years old, be ratified and respected.

"If you are serious about our well-being, start by giving our mothers a chance. Until they have access to the services they need, the quality of our lives will not improve. You will only treat the symptoms of the poverty that devours our spirit."

Ms. Huston is the author of "Third World Women Speak Out." She contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

Letters intended for publication should be addressed "Letters to the Editor" and contain the writer's signature, name and full address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. We cannot be responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.

Enfants sans frontières

Ce week-end, à New York, le « Sommet mondial pour l'enfance » réunira une pléiade de chefs d'État et de gouvernement. Mais qui, en France, demain, continuera de mener ce beau combat ?

PAR PATRICK WAJSMAN

Le Figaro
France

Le Figaro
France

Un sommet mondial leur est consacré à New York

Ne tirez plus sur les enfants !

De la guerre à la misère, en passant par la faim, la drogue, la maladie (y compris le Sida) et la prostitution : leur calvaire mobilise à partir de ce matin près de quatre-vingts chefs d'État et de gouvernement.

NEW YORK
Jean-Louis TURLIN

Ryan White est mort le dimanche des Rameaux, dans sa dix-huitième année. Et toute l'Amérique a pleuré. Le Sida a eu raison de l'exceptionnelle résistance d'un garçon à qui les médecins n'avaient accordé que six mois de survie... c'était en 1984.

Depuis, tout un continent avait suivi l'admirable combat de Ryan White. Combat contre les préjugés : les autorités scolaires de Kokomo, sa ville de naissance, lui avaient interdit l'accès à la classe, et sa mère avait dû déménager dans une autre ville pour l'inscrire. Combat pour l'information : pour lui permettre de poursuivre une vie quasi normale, Combat contre la maladie. Ryan refusant de céder à la peur, avait gardé le cœur de cœur d'un enfant de son âge en pleine santé.

Il était devenu, presque avant celle-ci, que ses deux sœurs et amis. Michael Jackson qui lui téléphonait régulièrement et Elton John, qui lui avait offert un voyage à Disneyworld. Ryan White était un symbole : de souffrance et de courage, mais aussi d'injustice et d'insultante des victimes innocentes.

Ryan avait donné un visage au scandale des millions d'enfants anonymes, victimes du poison du virus transmis, le plus souvent, à leur corps défendant. Comme pour lui, les transfusions sanguines en étaient sans doute responsables des quelque 700 cas de Sida déjà recensés au début de l'année par médecins du monde sur un peu plus de 2 000 tabulés mondialement dans les unités pédiatriques et des orphelinats surpeuplés de Roumanie.

Avant-salon. Une mamma, des milliers d'enfants africains sont condamnés par le sida de leur naître. (Photo DR).

Ils naissent, malheureusement pas encore de remède au Sida. Mais les participants au premier sommet mondial de l'enfance pourront se pencher sur les autres maladies infectieuses (pneumonie, rougeole, coqueluche, malaria, tétanos, diarrhées), qui sont responsables de la mort de sommeuse enfants dans le monde chaque jour.

Michel Rocard présent

Les vaccins existent et ne coûtent pas cher : environ 6 F pour une immunisation complète, quelques centimes pour un sachet de réhydratation. Il suffirait de 13 milliards de francs supplémentaires par an pour sauver la plupart des enfants du monde de la mort ou de la malnutrition : il est ce que dépensent en un an les marques américaines de cigarettes en publicité ou ce que détournent les Soviétiques en vodka chaque mois.

La présence du président Bush (et de Michel Rocard côté français) va dans le sens fixé par le sommet de New York : faire du bien-être des enfants la priorité des priorités à l'heure des coupes budgétaires à la hache.

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Le Figaro
France

Colloque sur l'enfance à l'ONU

Les bons sentiments

Sommet mondial de l'enfance à New York

Les prudences de Bush

Le Figaro
France

Michel Rocard : « Quand priorité est mondiale »

Avant-salon. Une mamma, des milliers d'enfants africains sont condamnés par le sida de leur naître. (Photo DR).

Michel Rocard présent

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La police sur les dents

Une mobilisation policière d'envergure a été mise en place à New York pour assurer la sécurité des quelque quatre-vingts chefs d'État et de gouvernements et des quatre-vingt-dix ministres des Affaires étrangères qui doivent participer au premier sommet de l'enfance organisé à l'ONU. Vingt personnalités sont estimées être à haut risque et feront l'objet d'une protection rapprochée, a indiqué Thomas Walsh, officier commandant la zone sud de Manhattan qui a refusé de dévoiler leur identité. Il contestant d'indiquer que seulement étaient originaires du Moyen-Orient.

En dehors des effectifs habituels, 900 policiers ont été mobilisés pour l'ouverture aujourd'hui, 950 dimanche et 1 500 lundi, jour où le président américain George Bush prononcera un discours à l'assemblée générale de l'ONU, puis prendra la parole à la conférence sur la sécurité et la coopération en Europe. Les trois pièces d'artillerie, comme celles chargées des explosifs, sont prêtes à intervenir vingt-quatre heures sur vingt-quatre. Dans le même temps, a ajouté le policier, neuf manifestations sont prévues autour de l'ONU ou dans Manhattan ce week-end.

Les New-Yorkais sont d'ores et déjà avertis que des déviations du sud-nord vont se traduire par des embouteillages un peu partout, notamment autour du Palais des Nations unies. Le pire est à attendre lundi, quand les dirigeants de nombreux du cortège officiel du président Bush traverseront Manhattan. Il est en outre prévu de se rendre de l'ONU à la réunion de la CSCE.

Le Figaro
France

Vernichtung von Leib und Seele

Der Spiegel
Germany

Der Spiegel
Germany

Die Welt
Germany

Gipfel für bessere Kinder-Zukunft

RENAT CONTRAI, New York

Mehr als 70 Staats- und Regierungschefs haben sich auf dem Weltkindergipfel in New York feierlich verpflichtet, den Rechten der Kinder einen Überleben, Schutz und ihrer Entwicklung künftig hohe Priorität zu geben. Konkret bekräftigten die Teilnehmer die Absicht, bis zum Jahr 2000 die Kindersterblichkeit weltweit um ein Drittel, sowie die Sterblichkeitsrate der Mütter und die Unterernährung von Kindern in weniger als fünf Jahren um die Hälfte zu reduzieren.

Die Probleme der Kinder, die bisher in der Weltpolitik nie eine herausragende Rolle gespielt hatten, brachten im UNO-Hauptquartier auf Einladung der Kinderhilfsorganisation Unicef das bisher umfangreichste Gipfeltreffen der Geschichte zustande. Die Teilnehmerliste, deren Anund Abfahrt mitweise den gesamten Verkehr von Manhattan blockierte, reichte von US-Präsident Bush und der britischen Regierungschefin Margaret Thatcher über den japanischen Ministerpräsidenten Kaifu und den Präsidenten von Zimbabwe, Mugabe, bis zum ČSFR-Präsidenten Havel und dem Emir von Kuwait, Al Sabah.

Bundespräsident von Weizsäcker gab die Empfindungen der gesamten Konferenz wieder, als er in einem Debattenbeitrag feststellte: „Die Kinder sind die größte Verpflichtung, die wir auf Erden haben. Ich kenne keine vordringlichere Aufgabe, als mit der Kindersterblichkeit fertig zu werden. Die wohlhabenden Industriestaaten sind aufgefordert, mit konkreten Programmen weit mehr zu tun als bisher. Als Beispiele nannte er Impfprogramme sowie Maßnahmen gegen unzureichende Kinderernährung, Müttersterblichkeit und Analphabetentum. Entscheidend sei auch eine vernünftige Familienplanung. „Die Eindämmung des Bevölkerungswachstums ist ebenso eine Frage auf Leben und Tod auch und gerade für die Kinder."

Mit alarmierenden Zahlen hatten die Initiatoren der Tagung zuvor auf den Ernst der Lage hingewiesen. Jeden Tag sterben in der Welt 40 000 Kinder an Unterernährung und Krankheiten, einschließlich Aids, sowie an Mangel an sauberem Wasser, an unzureichenden sanitären Verhältnissen und an den Folgen des Drogenproblems. Einhundert Millionen Kinder sind ohne Schulausbildung. Eine halbe Million Mütter sterben jährlich an den Folgen einer Geburt.

Dieser Herausforderung wollen sich die Staats und Regierungschefs, wie sie in einer gemeinsamen Deklaration unterstreichen, nun in nationaler Zusammenarbeit und auf nationaler Ebene stellen. „Das Leben von Zehntausenden von Jungen und Mädchen kann täglich gerettet werden, weil die Ursachen ihres Sterbens tatsächlich verhinderbar sind", versicherten sie. Um der Verantwortung gegenüber den Kindern gerecht zu werden, bedürfe es einer politischen Aktion auf höchster Ebene. Zu ihr gehörten ein „weltweiter Angriff auf die Armut", verstärkter Schutz der Kinder vor Ausbeutung und energische Maßnahmen gegen die Ausbreitung von Krankheiten wie Masern, Kinderlähmung, Tetanus, Tuberkulose, Krankheiten und Diphtherie. Die Deklaration von New York schließt mit dem Satz: „Es kann keine edlere Aufgabe geben, als jedem Kind eine bessere Zukunft zu sichern."

Vorarlberger Nachrichten
Germany

Auf der Welt sterben täglich 40.000 Kinder

70 Staatsmänner wollen bei New Yorker Gipfel Hilfen gegen Elend der Dritten Welt schaffen

New York (APA, AP) **Traurige Tatsache, mit der sich am Wochenende der „Kindergipfel" in New York befassen wird: Rund 40.000 Kinder sterben täglich auf der Welt, 14 Millionen sind es in einem Jahr. Diese Zahl bis Mitte der 90er Jahre auf die Hälfte zu verringern, ist das Ziel der Initiatoren des UNO-Kongresses.**

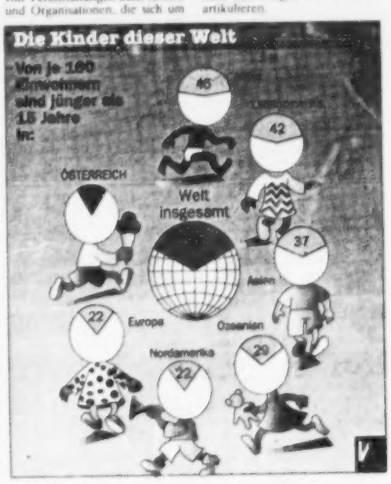
Mit 2,5 Milliarden Dollar im Jahr, etwa so viel wie tagtäglich für die Rüstung ausgegeben wird, könnte dieses Ziel nach Ansicht von Mitarbeitern des Kinderhilfswerks der Vereinten Nationen (UNICEF) erreicht werden.

Viele Hoffnungen richteten sich darauf, daß die Hilfsprogramme zugunsten der Kinder aus der „Friedensdividende" gespeist werden könnten, die nach dem Ende des Kalten Krieges erwartet wurde. Diese Hoffnung ist allerdings durch die Golfkrise, in deren Folge – vor allem durch die Ölpreiserhöhungen – eine Fülle wirtschaftlicher Probleme auf zahlreiche Staaten zukommt, vorläufig weitgehend zunichte gemacht worden.

„Der Gipfel soll die Führer der Welt davon überzeugen, daß die Kinder höhere Priorität erhalten müssen", sagte UNICEF-Direktor James Grant in einem Interview. Er verweist darauf, daß jährlich Zehntausende junger Leben mit einfachsten Mitteln – etwa der Rehydrationstherapie gegen Durchfall – und geringen Kosten gerettet werden könnten. Es gebe seit Jahren Möglichkeiten, Kinder massenweise gegen potentiell tödliche Krankheiten zu impfen. „Wir sehen heute eine echte Chance, daß die 90er Jahre mehr Fortschritt bringen werden, als jedes der vergangenen Jahrzehnte", sagte Grant.

Die Idee, Staatsmänner aus aller Welt zusammenzurufen, um weltweite Maßnahmen für die in Not und Elend lebenden Kinder vor allem der Dritten Welt zu initiieren, war während der letzten UNO-Vollversammlung von den Staats- und Regierungschefs Kanadas, Ägyptens, Malis, Mexikos und Schwedens entwickelt worden. Vor dem Hintergrund der alarmierenden Zahlen der Kinder die hungern, keine Schulbildung erhalten oder unter AIDS leiden, hatte die Idee immer mehr Befürworter gefunden.

Die jungen Menschen, um die es bei der Veranstaltung geht, werden auf dem Gipfel selbst nur eine untergeordnete Rolle spielen. Laut Programm sollen sie die Präsidenten und Regierungschefs „zu ihren Sitzen geleiten" und Zeugen sein bei der Unterzeichnung der Kinderdeklaration. Im Vorfeld und am Rande des Gipfels aller-dings haben bei einer ganzen Reihe von Veranstaltungen auch Kinder und Organisationen, die sich um sie kümmern, reichlich Gelegenheit, ihre Sorgen und Nöte zu artikulieren.



NEPUJSAG

Szemünk fénye...

ENSZ KONFERENCIA

ÖTVENMILLIÓ GYERMEKÉRT

Nepujsag
Hungary

SI APRE A NEW YORK LA CONFERENZA DEI CAPI DI STATO E DI GOVERNO SULL'INFANZIA

Milioni di bambini muoiono ogni anno per malattie, violenze e denutrizione

L'Osservatore Romano
Holy See

The Irish Times
Ireland

THE IRISH TIMES

11 D'OLIER STREET, DUBLIN 2
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1990

OUT OF STEP

The gathering at the United Nations was unprecedented but it means Heads of Government and Heads of State assembled to confront a single issue [illegible] the World Summit for Children organised by UNICEF at the weekend. In the words of Perez de Cuellar, it represented "a commitment at the highest level to build a world that will guard the most precious resource of the human race" ... and the Taoiseach was present to express Ireland's endorsement of the pledge.

The depth of the problem is painfully clear. Sixty million children under the age of five die every year of malnutrition and diseases which can, and ought to be prevented. This is because the world order is not one which regards that most precious resource and the world's leaders are only now beginning to acknowledge their obligations.

Ireland has long taken pride in the history it shares with the colonial and post-colonial countries which are now ill-fated and, in another context, consistently remind the European Community's powerful members of their obligations to those in the Community who are less well-off. Indeed, in the 1970s, Ireland played a significant role in the negotiation of the Lome Convention which provides Community aid for African, Caribbean and Pacific states.

* * *

But the association with colonial and post-colonial countries is more rhetorical than real: the appeal to the EC's more prosperous members is selective, and the role which contributed substantially to the framing of the Lome Convention has been abandoned. Ireland has consistently reduced its bilateral Overseas Development Aid programme since 1986, when it reached 0.35 per cent of GNP. Last year it was 0.17 per cent and this year it has fallen to 0.16 per cent. The UN target is 0.7 per cent of GNP.

The Republic's contribution now places it shamefully at the bottom of a list of 18 developed countries. Even the contributions to UNICEF have been quartered since 1986, according to Campaign Aid, an alliance of development agencies and others concerned with the Third World. But in New York at the weekend, Mr. Haughey would only say that the Government would "have a look at all these areas" when next year's budget is being prepared.

Nor has the irony of the treatment of children in Ireland been missed by the Opposition. As the Taoiseach endorsed the pledge to children's rights at the UNICEF conference, three boys aged 15, in charge of car theft, were spending the weekend in the Bridewell, yet another reminder of indifference to children's rights at home.

The Irish people have demonstrated their commitment to the world's poor. In theory at least, this is a society which cares about children. In sad and shameful practice, the Government is out of step.

La Repubblica
Italy

La Repubblica
Italy

scompaiono come d'incanto, e poi mancano reni o altre parti del corpo finiscono di contrabbando a Los Angeles nelle cliniche che salvano i 6 gli malati dei superindustriali.

Salam, Latifara e Miguel sono vivi, almeno per ora. Affrontano le asprezze della vita, ma altri loro coetanei muoiono tra atroci sofferenze. Dell'olocausto annuale di 14 milioni di bambini, una parte consistente, 2,5 milioni, se ne va per la disidratazione causata dalla diarrea, a sua volta provocata dai germi dell'acqua. La disidratazione si combatte con un sacchetto di sali che costa appena cinquanta lire. Basterebbe dare i sali a tutti i bambini del terzo mondo, per salvare 25 milioni di vite.

In tutto il terzo mondo le statistiche sulla mortalità infantile sono impressionanti. Ogni anno in Mozambico nascono 681 mila bebè e ne muoiono 203 mila ragazzini di meno di 5 anni; mentre in Italia, su 554 mila neonati, solo 6 mila non superano la quinta candelina. In 11 stati del mondo, dal Pakistan alla Nigeria, dall'Etiopia alla Bolivia, il tasso di mortalità sotto a un anno è superiore al 10 per cento; in Italia è dell'uno per cento, in Giappone dello 0,4.

Con pragmatismo anglosassone, gli organizzatori del summit di New York hanno individuato sette problemi e sette obiettivi da raggiungere nel prossimo decennio, chiamato «decennio della speranza». Primo: 14 milioni di bambini di meno di cinque anni muoiono ogni anno; si vuole ridurre la mortalità di un terzo, puntando soprattutto sulle vaccinazioni di massa per le sei malattie più comuni, morbillo, tetano, tubercolosi, polio, tosse convulsa e difterite.

Secondo: mezzo milione di madri muoiono come conseguenza del parto o della gravidanza. L'obiettivo è dimezzare la cifra. Terzo: il 40 per cento dei bambini soffre la fame; si intende ridurre la percentuale al 20 per cento. Quarto: sedici milioni di bambini nel terzo mondo bevono acqua putrida, che invece deve essere un diritto di tutti. Quinto: 100 milioni di bambini resteranno analfabeti, si punta all'80 per cento di scolarizzazione. Sesto: il 50 per cento delle donne sono analfabete con gravi conseguenze sui figli. Anche qui, si vuole dimezzare il numero.

Infine, i bambini sono i primi a soffrire nelle guerre e sono vittime innocenti dello sfruttamento e degli abusi da parte degli adulti. Occorre proteggerli, dicono gli organizzatori del summit.

Il Messaggero
Italy

6 dall'Estero

Prende il via a New York il vertice voluto dall'Unicef con settanta delegazioni straniere

Onu, infanzia in pericolo

In discussione le violazioni dei diritti umani sui bambini

Mugabe e le "Giubbe rose"

10 Il nostro tempo

Drammatica denuncia alle Nazioni Unite: ogni giorno 40 mila bambini muoiono di fame e di malattia

L'inutile strage degli innocenti

E Andreotti propone: «Cancelliamo i debiti del Terzo Mondo»

- Nel suo discorso in difesa delle piccole vittime il Presidente del Consiglio punta a superare gli squilibri del sottosviluppo
- Atteso intervento di Bush da cui dipende un importante finanziamento all'Unicef contro la piaga della mortalità infantile

Ma l'Italia ha un triste primato: la violenza diffusa contro i minori

Il Messaggero
Italy

Wende in der Politik zugunsten der Kinder?

Staatsmänner verpflichten sich

Lëtzebuerger Journal
Luxembourg

Reformatorisch Dagblad
Netherlands

Aandacht op kindertop voor „verborgen ramp" van gehandicapte kinderen

„Het is net of ze er niet mogen zijn"

„Kindertop was een lachertje"

Dagblad Almere
Netherlands

Kindertop trekt 70 staatshoofden en regeringsleiders

Actieplan VN tegen problemen kinderen

Hengelo's Dagblad
Netherlands

Verdens Gang
Norway

Barns rettigheter

OVERGREP: Barn lider – over hele verden. Vold, sykdommer, krig og stoffmisbruk tar livet av 40 000 barn hver eneste dag året rundt. Mens verdens ledere snakker om barnas rettigheter i New York i helgen, dør 75 000 barn.

BARNAS DAG

men i helgen dør 75 000 . . .

AV JON HAGHUS

Når konger, presidenter og statsministre glass og smiler und

York, er det noen titalls millioner som ikke smiler tilbake. De orker ikke å smile – eller de har ikke noe å smile for. De er ikke annet enn tall i en statistikk.

Rettigheter

Krafttak for barn, USA signerer ikke

Arbetet
Sweden

Barnens rättigheter tema för toppmöte

Förberedande samtal i Stockholm

(TT) Barns rätt till liv och utveckling, barns rätt till trygghet och barns rätt till respekt. Det är frågor som kommer att diskuteras vid ett internationellt barntoppmöte i New York om en månad.

Barnombudsman

Inga löften

El Independiente
Spain

Grandes Temas del Domingo

Niños condenados a muerte

El País
Spain

El Banco Mundial aumenta en 500 millones de dólares la ayuda anual a la población infantil

La Suisse
Switzerland

MONDE

SOMMET MONDIAL AUX NATIONS UNIES

AUX JOURS DE L'ENFANCE

La Suisse
Switzerland

ENFANTS PAUVRES AUX ETATS-UNIS

L'envers du décor

« SUMMIT » DE NEW YORK

Petits Suisses invités

(FM) — Lors de la rencontre internationale des chefs d'Etat à New York autour de la Convention des droits de l'enfant, des petits Suisses, Italiens et Allemands ainsi que trois Brésiliens ont lu un texte au siège de l'ONU. Membres du groupe «Juniors pour monde uni», ils ont fait part de quelques suggestions telles que créer des «jour nées pour un monde uni». Ils souhaitent également pour suivre le dialogue avec les adultes par le biais de comités nationaux d'enfants.

...ns les dix prochaines années (LDD)

Réduire d'un tiers la mortalité infantile

Le pape condamne l'avortement

THE SUNDAY TIMES magazine

SEPTEMBER 30, 1990

Worldwide, young children are sweating their lives away in factories, quarries and workshops. Labouring for a pittance, they are innocent victims of callous economic exploitation. Here, as the first World Summit for Children meets in New York, Russell Miller reports from India on the children who grow old before their time. Photographs by Tom Stoddart

PITY THE CHILD

The Sunday Times Magazine
United Kingdom

Financial Times
United Kingdom

World leaders gather for summit on plight of children

Victims of murder, ill health and slavery, many of the world's 2bn children get a raw deal, reports Michael Littlejohns

F

I

New York lawlessness takes its toll of children

By Michael Littlejohns

Heroes and victims

C

Idealism fights for survival

P

A

Life and death on the streets of Brazil

Daily Telegraph
United Kingdom

Face to face with the challenges of Aids

As President Bush and Mrs Thatcher attend the first UN World Summit for Children, CATHERINE BOND assesses the devastation wreaked by Aids on a new generation in Africa

THIS WEEKEND in New York, President Bush and Mrs Thatcher attend the United Nations' first World Summit for Children. As chairman of the Organisation of African Unity, President Museveni of Uganda will address the summit on the problems children across Africa face at a time when much of the continent is experiencing its worst political turmoil since independence and struggling to repay its vast external debt.

To add to all the normal problems of underdevelopment, by the year 2000 Africa will have a special category — the children of a [illegible] estimated 10 million parents will die [illegible]

problems being about 40,000 or the international fact that Aids can [illegible] ormentalised as a t has unprecedented mic consequences. ts workforce, its disasters, grow food and, in turn, export its debts.

recent surveys in the years, 45 per cent of can workforce may be IV and 90 per cent of diseases. As the 1990s ganda — with an estimillion HIV positive an expert 12,000 new a month, including spite the World Bank's severe overpopulation Africa's resources. Aids the crisis, reversing

this month, the World 120 other major donors sent s to Uganda to work out a ctoral Aids strategy which, ceeds, will be a blueprint for ads-affected countries.

VERYONE agreed that putting money into schools, agriculture, roads and economic planning as well as health, was needed, but a bitter territorial war took place between the Bank and the World Health Organisation, which leads the UN mandate to control its programmes. Britain and the Nordic countries opposed the World Bank's encroachment on the basis that it would create chaos, and backed WHO as the "lead agency" to co-ordinate several Ugandan government ministries. A myriad of small non-governmental organisations, which when it comes down to it do all the work, ganged up to stop the World Bank from imposing a monster bureaucracy on them.

Agencies came dangerously close to losing sight of their objective. It is no secret that over the next five years or so there will be a vast amount of money for Aids, and the agency that controls it will be a very powerful agency. One British diplomat remarked wryly.

Once the air cleared, however, a fairly sensible compromise was reached, with each agency given responsibility according to its expertise. Uganda would welcome the World Bank's provision of $30 million worth of soft loans for infrastructure, such as building clinics, schools and roads. And it seems WHO swallowed its pride, realising it has enough on its plate coping with Aids statistics and policies.

The World Bank's proposed entry into Aids is already said to be the subject of argument between banks and doves in its Washington headquarters. So far, supporting Aids projects has been cheap in aid terms, and others doubt accept the idea of long-term involvement. The conference ended on a note of guarded optimism.

Frustrated by WHO's slow progress since 1986, President Museveni wants to keep tabs on the new Aids programme by setting up an independent secretariat in the office of a deputy Prime Minister.

These are good ideas, but how do they translate into reality? In the past four years the only people who have done anything to help 25,000 Aids orphans in Uganda's worst hit district of Rakai, are a few Irish nuns from a mission hospital and their network of Ugandan volunteers. To give them credit, Norway's Redda Barne (Save the Children Fund), has recently set up nearby, and Oxfam and SCF UK have backed work in Rakai too. But, just one and a half hour's drive south of the Ugandan capital of Kampala, a chronic emergency has passed unnoticed.

There are villages here of children only. A local official told me six months ago. In one family I met, the oldest child was nine, looking after his brother, aged seven, and three-year-old sister. He could not cope. Sally Fegan Wyles, representative for the UN Children's Fund (Unicef) — which has a good reputation in Uganda for Aids education work in schools and district health — says everyone was "paralysed by the enormity of it. We had never experienced anything like it before. It took us in Unicef a year to work out what our role should be." Fegan-Wyles says it takes 18 months to get international agencies into action.

Another official, this time from the Lutheran World Federation, was asked why no aid agency was working in Rakai. "That's what everyone is asking, and no one seems to have a decent explanation," he said. LWF wants to improve the appalling roads so that people can earn money selling fish from Lake Victoria, but admits it will not start until early next year. Altogether, half a dozen agencies have lined up with plans that may fall into place, setting a pattern of assistance which can be repeated in other Ugandan districts, and eventually other countries. Fortunately, it looks as if parts of Uganda will escape Aids on an epidemic scale.

On the plus side, local people have grown more organised, drawing up orphan registers so they can easily identify who most needs help, and forming their own groups to help orphans. "One of the operational research things we're doing now," says Fegan-Wyles, "is making a person by person map of communities — Who is left? What skills do they have? What role could they play? They may not be able to take 20 children into their house, but maybe they could provide guidance to other families who have. Orphanages are out, as the government rightly believes that children should be absorbed into extended families.

IT IS easy to find out what people looking after Aids orphans want. School fees are always the chief concern — these seem negligible at £2.67 a term for a primary school child, but people cannot afford them. Anxious not to discriminate against ordinary children, the plan is to improve schools, with better teachers' pay and books, on condition they each absorb a quota of non-paying orphans. Such training in skills like carpentry and aid for the poorest families could receive large scale backing. The most useful things are simple: the Irish nuns give wheelbarrows to help children and the sick to carry crops.

The investment in child orientated, because as a Ugandan health worker in an area where 75 per cent of adults are HIV-positive points out, "at least, let those children who are not infected, not get it." But who cares for the sick and dying? Prolonging an adult's life can help the economy and gives children a better chance, but no donor is willing to pay for expensive Aids drugs for African patients, although some will supply basic medicines to alleviate symptoms.

The multi-sectoral strategy virtually ignores patient care, leaving it in the hands of hospitals and Ugandan counselling groups, although some agencies might be happy to see Aids research carried out — Ugandans could find themselves testing drugs which will never be available to people whose governments can not afford to buy them.

The new strategy leaves unanswered a moral question of whether Western donors should help to provide the best possible medical care to prolong the lives of Aids patients in Africa, as they would at home. None the less, it is a welcome development that Uganda has been the first African country to prepare to meet the many challenges Aids presents head-on.

Orphaned by Aids in Uganda. There are villages of children only

The European
United Kingdom

Gulf may obscure children's plight

● Roman Rollnick

UNITED NATIONS: officials who have spent two years preparing for this weekend's World Summit for Children are concerned that the Gulf crisis might overshadow the largest ever gathering of world leaders.

As the world breaks free from the Cold War era, the timing of the summit, organised by Unicef, the United Nations Children's Fund, could not be better. But officials said that the 70 leaders, including US President George Bush, UK Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, French President François Mitterrand, the Saudi monarch King Fahd, other Middle East leaders and senior officials might spend "more time in the corridors of the UN building discussing the Gulf crisis".

One official said: "We have spent two years preparing for this conference. It will not be overshadowed by the Gulf crisis, but occupied with it."

The aim of the conference is to find the means and the funds to put an end to preventable diseases, such as pneumonia, measles, tetanus, whooping cough, and diarrhoeal dehydration, which Unicef estimates claim the lives of 21,000 children around the world every day.

The conference will also seek commitments on education, the role of women, nutrition, and on improving water and sanitation facilities. To add to Unicef's shocking statistics, Amnesty International, the London-based human rights organisation, is making an appeal to the summit to get governments to stop the illegal killing, torture and imprisonment of children.

One country Amnesty will single out is Iraq. Last year the group published the names of 168 children who had been detained without charge or trial, mistreated or who had simply disappeared in Iraq. It cited the case of a baby of five months old who was deliberately deprived of milk to force a confession from his parents.

The report to the summit meeting says: "Children are frequently used as pawns to force their parents to make confessions or turn themselves in. Many have been jailed and beaten, and some have even been executed. In Iraq, hundreds of children have been incarcerated, many of whom have disappeared or been tortured."

Unicef has calculated that the diversion of even five per cent of the world's military spending would be enough to meet all basic human needs — although UN diplomats are acutely aware that arms expenditure is hard to reduce.

It is not a good time to press governments too hard to reduce arms expenditure. Peter Adamson, the editor of Unicef's annual report, said: "For every child who dies, several more live on with

CHILD MORTALITY

Children in the USSR are over four times more likely to die before their first birthday than those in Finland

Deaths per thousand under 1s in 1988	
Albania	34
Romania	34
USSR	32
Yugoslavia	32
Bulgaria	28
Hungary	20
Poland	19
Greece	18
Czechoslovakia	18
East Germany	15
United Kingdom	12
West Germany	11
France	10
Finland	10
Japan	7

Source: Unicef

malnutrition and ill health. Death and suffering on this scale is no longer necessary. High child death rates mean that parents overcompensate by having larger families, thereby maintaining high rates of population growth.

The problems children face are not limited to poor nations in Africa, Asia, and the Americas. Unicef officials cite cases of child malnutrition even in the UK, and the agency reported this week that the worst cases in Europe were in Romania, with its institutions and orphanages crammed with abandoned children suffering from curable illnesses such as leprosy. The gap of development between countries around the world is measured by the average mortality rate of children under five. Afghanistan is bottom of the development league with more than 300 deaths per thousand, below a group of African nations.

FINANCIAL TIMES

World Leaders Adopt 10-Point Programme for Children's Rights

More than 70 world leaders last night approved an ambitious plan of action to give every child a better future.

A world Summit for Children meeting at the United Nations adopted a 10-point programme to protect the rights and improve the lives of almost 3bn people aged under 16.

Heads of state and government from Albania to Zimbabwe spent yesterday discussing how to reduce by one-third child deaths, now estimated at 40,000 a day; how to halve the extent of malnutrition, which now contributes to about 50 percent of the deaths; and how to eradicate polio, and provide prenatal care for all women and family planning advice for couples.

There was no mention of the cost of such national and international programmes. Officials stressed in advance of the summit that it was not "a chequebook conference."

A co-chairman of this biggest gathering of world leaders in history, Mr. Brian Mulroney, prime minister of Canada, said the peace dividend that many had expected from the end of the Cold War already was diluted by the Gulf crisis. "Once again, the neediest children have lost in large measure because so few voices among the powerful have spoken out strongly on their behalf," he said.

US President George Bush, citing what he called stark and oppressive facts, said more than 14m children would die this year and in the next hour alone 1,000 babies would perish. "So let us affirm in this historic summit that these children can be saved," he said.

Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, the British prime minister, put the accent on the family as the most important factor in ensuring children's welfare. The dominant influence on the child's health, behaviour and the success of its education was parental example.

Economic progress did not necessarily solve human problems, as was demonstrated by the many difficulties faced by families in western countries.

Mrs. Thatcher, who was to have dinner with Mr. Bush last night, had short meetings with as many 40 visiting heads of government, including for the first time President Carlos Menem of Argentina.

The summit plan of action lists among its main goals:

- Between 1990 and 2000, the infant and under-five mortality rate should be reduced by one third to 50 and 70 per 1,000 live births respectively.
- By 2000, the maternal mortality rate should be halved.
- During the same period severe malnutrition of children under five should be halved.
- There should be universal access to safe drinking water and sanitary sewage disposal.
- Within the next 10 years, universal access to basic education and completion of primary education by at least 80 percent of children should be provided.
- Adult illiteracy should be halved, with special emphasis on female literacy.

World leaders adopt 10-point programme for children's rights

By Michael Littlejohns, UN Correspondent

MORE THAN 70 world leaders last night approved an ambitious plan of action to give every child a better future.

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Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, centre, introduces Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to the youngest journalist at the UN Summit – 11-year-old Laura Fenwick from Calgary

Havel walks mean streets, Syse goes stargazing

By Peter Riddell, US Editor, in New York

PRESIDENT Vaclav Havel of Czechoslovakia has always wanted to be a different kind of leader – boosting freedom of movement and informal contact, along with his power.

So it was no surprise at 12.15 pm yesterday to see him walking through the bar of the Algonquin Hotel with a few friends and briefly a security man in sight.

As by far the most distinguished visitor among the 71 world leaders assembled in New York for the UN conference on children, he normally would be put on the Algonquin Round Table – the home during the 1920s and 1940s of south New York's wits as Dorothy Parker, Robert Benchley and Alexander Woollcott.

This is perhaps the nearest thing to Prague possible in the US – literary, not noisy. Because presumably it is now more a refuge for Americans than a refuge for Europeans such as Jan Masaryk from Hitler's Nazis.

The Algonquin was only the end of a late evening stroll for Mr Havel, down from the hotel on 56th Street to Times Square near 42nd Street – an area which often panhandlers. New Yorkers would be wary of walking that late at night.

Other world leaders were, more traditionally, lodging somewhat around town in suites of public rooms, often crowding Wall and Albany.

But even the best laid plans can go wrong. As Mr Bush was meeting Mr Thabiki Keith, the Japanese prime minister, an apparently faulty fire alarm went off, including bursts of fire-engines and fire inspectors.

While New Yorkers are traditionally blasé about celebrities, even visiting world leaders can be impressed by whom they meet. Mr Jan Syse, the Norwegian prime minister, was asked by one star he met at a restaurant – "It's not every day you meet Paul Newman."

Financial Times
United Kingdom

The Economist
United Kingdom

Suffer the children . . .

WHEN statesmen agree, they are pretty certainly oversimplifying. On the Gulf, at the United Nations, they will honestly differ on the means of solving the conflict, and so much the better. But they will break off for what promises to be a self-congratulatory consensus.

More than 70 heads of state and of government have promised to drop in next weekend on a World Summit for Children, the brainchild of UNICEF, the UN's specialised agency for children. The agency has drawn up a wish-list of things that could be done to help more of the world's children survive, safe, decently fed and tolerably taught.

Some of the most useful things are absurdly cheap and simple—for example, the delivery of salt kits, at a few pennies each, that stop children dehydrating to death when they get diarrhoea. Of course that should be done; of course malnutrition should be halved; of course it is monstrous that measles, which kills practically nobody in rich countries, should exterminate 1.5m children a year in the tropics. Of course, too, it is good that top people should denounce such evils.

Keeping hope alive

But most children, and most adults, die before their times not because the will is lacking to help them survive. They die either because their rulers and would-be rulers fight each other for power, as in Afghanistan, Mozambique, Ethiopia and so on. Or they die because their rulers are too weak, too self-interested, or (most often) simply too ill organised, to set a framework for preventing those deaths.

UNICEF tells the summiteers that much of the blame for rising infant mortality lies with cuts in public spending on health, imposed by creditors on poor governments seeking to pay their debts. But cuts in health spending may accompany reductions in child mortality: in Chile, while the government hacked away for 17 years at the public health system, mortality among under-fives continued its decline from 142 per thousand in 1960 to 26 in 1988. Public debts, and setting right the follies that caused them in the first place, do not kill babies.

Rich countries do not necessarily keep their children alive: in the United States, under-fives are twice as likely to die as in Finland. Poor governments can, unaided, create the general social policies that by private or by public effort ensure the survival of the young. In China deaths among under-fives went down from 202 to 43 per thousand in 1960-88.

Summiteers may feel good when they give their blessing to global solutions and calls for more development aid. But national action is what does the children good. Nor are UNICEF's good resolutions likely to address the main point, which is that most children die in countries where women have too many children.

Child woes in rich nations widen summit agenda

The Times
United Kingdom

SPUR

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE WORLD DEVELOPMENT MOVEMENT

Justice for the world's poor

Thatcher Joins in Bid to Save Children

Face the Tax Day for Banks

Apartheid Farm Worker Slaves

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World Summit for Children

Causes of child deaths

DEBT, IGNORANCE & AIDS

NEWS

Death Sentence for Kids

Spreading the Aid Jam

Spur
United Kingdom

Rhetoric of child summit

From Mrs Glenys Kinnock

Sir: We will hear fine words from the Summit for Children in New York this weekend. These words should not obscure the glaring omissions, as far as the nurture and protection of our young are concerned, in the industrial world and in the developing world. Grave disparities clearly exist between the ideals and existing legislation and practice.

Every year 14 million children in the Third World under the age of five die of easily preventable diseases. They die in what Unicef calls "the silent emergency". In not "the loud emergency" of drought, famine or emerge... their deaths a... less car... lively... Million denied mean the whose ... ill... lighted by Investmen...

now be a by-produ... of the Cold ... serve ...

The Independent
United Kingdom

World leaders endorse Unicef summit plan which focuses on health and education

'Peace dividend' plea for children

From Leonard Doyle
in New York

LEADERS from more than 70 countries made a commitment at the Unicef World Summit for Children yesterday to improve the lives of the world's most impoverished children.

The meeting at United Nations headquarters was said to be the largest ever gathering of world leaders. It included the US President, George Bush, and the Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher.

The leaders approved a declaration and a plan of action which committed their countries to reduce infant and under-five child deaths throughout the world by a third by the year 2000, to halve the number of women who die in childbirth, to reduce severe malnutrition among children by half and to guarantee access to basic education, clean drinking water and sanitation facilities.

The summit organisers hope that in the post-Cold War era governments will give "first call" to children's issues by diverting the dividends from reduced military spending to health and education in both the developing and industrialised worlds.

The focus on health and education comes from the widespread belief that many of the aid projects in the developing world have been misdirected in the past. Rather than declare war on poverty, the world leaders committed themselves not only to improving health and education but giving people the skills to improve their own standards of living.

The United Nations Children's Fund has been drawing attention to the needs of children since it was founded in 1946 but it points out that more than 100 million children live on the streets, more than 100 million have no access to primary schooling and almost 155 million under five years live in absolute poverty.

A handful of countries dissent, some of them easily treatable, as well as malnutrition still cause 14 million children to die this year.

The UN adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child last year after 10 years of negotiation. The document, described as a "bill of rights" for children, has been signed by more than 100 countries, including Britain, but only 40 countries have had it ratified by their parliaments or legislative assemblies. Another aim of the summit was to encourage nations to ratify the convention as soon as possible.

Letter, page 20

Victims of civil war and famine in Kapoeta, southern Sudan — *Photograph: Russell Boyce/Reuter*

Hurd sees overseas aid as a political lever

DOUGLAS HURD, the Foreign Secretary, has spelt out ways of using Britain's overseas development aid as a lever to secure better government in developing countries, and insisted that recipient governments must be accountable, allow political pluralism and more open government, writes **Richard Dowden**.

Writing in Crossbow, the quarterly journal of the Conservative Bow Group, Mr Hurd said that the themes of good government and human rights will be introduced into the regular aid dialogue between Britain and the governments of developing countries.

"There is no reason why we should expect the Third World to accept lower standards than those which apply elsewhere. Poverty does not justify torture, tyranny or economic incompetence," he writes.

The Foreign Secretary suggested that the potential for corruption must be reduced and frameworks established in which the private sector and small businesses can flourish. He said that abuses of human rights must be exposed and condemned, while key institutions such as the judiciary and public administration must be strengthened. Freedom of the press, political pluralism and the dispersal of power also must be encouraged.

However, Mr Hurd made no mention of Kenya, Britain's biggest recipient of aid in Africa, in his list of countries moving towards political pluralism. President Daniel arap Moi is the only African leader to rule out any form of political pluralism. Many observers saw Britain's new policy of linking aid and political development as falling at the first fence after Britain refused to criticise the Kenyan government's suppression of pro-democracy demonstrations in July.

In a reference to Britain's reticence over Kenya, Mr Hurd writes: "In certain cases it will make sense to voice our concern and condemnation as publicly as possible. In other cases, we will find the government in question more amenable to private representations."

PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

Torture and jail for boys in Guatemala

AT THE end of June six street children were kidnapped by a group of heavily armed men in Guatemala City. Bystanders watched as the teenage boys were forced into a large station-wagon and driven off.

In July the bodies of Jovito Josue Castellanos and Salvador Sandoval turned up and were identified by friends. They had been shot in the head, their ears and tongues cut out and their eyes burnt or gouged out – treatment that is meted out by the national police to those who inform on them. The body of another child, Walter Villatoro, similarly mutilated, has since turned up. Of the other three there is no news, but reports suggest they are being held by police in a secret detention centre somewhere in the city.

In El Salvador another boy has gone missing. Erick Romero Canales was taken from his home in November, three weeks after his seventeenth birthday, by soldiers and held overnight at a military post near his home. His mother was allowed to take him food. Next morning she watched as he was blindfolded, handcuffed and driven away in a Jeep. She has not seen him since.

These boys are just a few of the victims of the growing wave of attacks on young people, particularly street children, occurring across Latin America. An estimated seven million children live and work on the streets of Brazilian cities, and there are 5,000, aged five to 18, in Guatemala City. They scavenge for food in rubbish dumps, beg and sell things on the streets and sleep under parked cars or over the warm vents of the Underground. As their numbers grow – it is said there could be as many as 200 million throughout the world by the end of the decade – they are increasingly seen as a criminal threat by the police and a nuisance by shopkeepers. Many are vanishing into secret police custody. Others are turning up dead, presumably at the hands of death squads, their bodies mutilated.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child, one of the subjects of the world summit on children in New York at the weekend, lays down specific provisions for the protection, development and care of children, and covers every form of abuse and torture. Brazil has now ratified the Convention, Guatemala and El Salvador have not.

Caroline Moorehead

Observer
United Kingdom

'I never knew they could lock us up'

Children's rights: What you can do now

1. What do you know about children in your community? Do they have enough playgroups, safe play areas, youth clubs? Is their housing poor? Are they healthy? Join a local tenants' association, housing action group or playgroup association to campaign for change.

2. Write to your local newspapers, MP and councillors. Twelve letters can prompt an MP into action. Raise the issue of the Convention and Britain's need to ratify. Press for a local children's rights officer and a national ombudsperson, for better childcare, more schemes for children with special needs and the enforcement of laws which protect children.

3. Raise awareness and money for the organisations helping children, among them Unicef, NSPCC, Save the Children and Barnardo's.

4. Talk and listen to children about issues they care about. Encourage them to learn about children in other countries and cultures.

5. The Children's Legal Centre, 20 Compton Terrace, London N1 2UN, acts on behalf of children and has a monthly newsletter, *Childrights*, subscription £25 annually. The centre is the only one in the country. Lobby for a children's legal centre in every major city.

6. Write a letter to Mrs Thatcher, tell her children matter and so, therefore, does proper investment in social services, income support, health, education and housing. Embarrass her: ask why Britain has so far failed to ratify when countries such as Gambia, Bangladesh and Vietnam have done so.

7. Send for a copy of the Convention from Unicef UK, 55 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3NB (enclose an sae). Use it to make your case.

8. Give children the respect you expect for yourself.

Additional research by Elizabeth Cooke.

Observer
United Kingdom

ДЕТСКИЙ МИР — 89

РУКОВОДИТЕЛИ ДЕСЯТКОВ СТРАН ОБЪЕДИНЯЮТ УСИЛИЯ

Literaturnaya Gazeta
USSR

Без фанфар

Штаб-квартира ООН стала в последнюю пы для сентября мо-стом проведения Всемирной встречи на высшем уровне в ин-тересах детей. Встреча — уже третья во счету — проходит в под эгидой Детского фонда ООН (ЮНИСЕФ). Правда на этот раз в Нью-Йорке собрались не дети, а самое 70 глав государств и 80 министров иностранных дел, в их числе президент США Дж. Буш, премьер-министр Великобритании М. Тэтчер, министр иностранных дел СССР Э. А. Шеварднадзе.

Сегодня увы, пять маленьких детского счастья обеспечено для всех детей мира. Около 40 тысяч детей, которые были еще живы во время вчерашней встречи, умрут к моменту официального закрытия. Да, такова их страшная статистика. 14 миллионов — в год, 40 тысяч — в день, 1 600 детей умирают в мире в течение часа, 60 тысяч — в год. Чтобы спасти детей, человечеству должно истратить в ближайшем десятилетии 2,5 триллиона долларов. Ни одна от-дельно взятая страна не один из этих международных фон-дов не смогут взять на себя такие затраты. Это можно сде-лать только сообща, если мировое сообщество сумеет.

Между тем 2,5 миллиарда — это не такая уж огромная сумма. Помимо, скажем, «Стелса и бомбардировщиков не стоят ли столько же сегодня статис-тические расходы? «Стелс» и ракетам — это всего лишь 0,3 процента ежегодных мировых расходов на вооружение. Человечеству отнюдь трудно примириться с мыслью, что 80 миллионов малышей ежегодно на нашей планете не имеют крыши над головой, 10 миллионов — бе-женцы.

Картина получается одним не-утешительный. И хорошо, что об-ком этом идет речь на встрече в Нью-Йорке. Идет поиск реше-ний. Без пропагандистского шу-мишь. Без спасительного само-обмана.

В. СУХОЯ,
(Соб. корр. «Правды»)
г. Нью-Йорк.

Pravda
USSR

Хозяева
Ист-ривер—
дети

s niños
osotros'

El Diario de Hoy

$ 1.

o LIV Nº 18640 72 Págs. San Salvador, Lunes 1 de Octubre de 1990.

LLAMADO UNANIME
MUNDO POR LOS NI

Día del Niño

Con una serie de actos alusivos y fiestas infantiles por parte de instituciones públicas y privadas, y en medio de las celebraciones del Día Internacional del Niño, El Salvador se suma hoy al propósito unánime mundial de procurar un futuro mejor, sin hambre y ni enfermedades, para la niñez del planeta, adquirido por los líderes del globo en las Naciones Unidas el pasado fin de semana. La Procuraduría General de la República agasa-

There was an impressive outpouring of press coverage throughout Latin America and the Caribbean, particularly in the countries of the 17 presidents and prime ministers who actually attended the Summit.

Reportage was especially voluminous in Mexico, where President Salinas was one of the initiators and played a key role in planning for the gathering. There were numerous front-page stories in most newspapers, cover articles in two magazines and widespread programming on television. The two magazines, *Revista de Revistas* and *Jueves de Excelsior*, each ran about 20 pages on the situation of children and what the Summit could achieve.

A compilation of articles from Argentina ran more than 100 pages. In addition, Argentine television devoted a considerable amount of time, with a special 20-minute programme broadcast three days after the Summit. In Brazil, there were pieces in publications in all regions of the country, both about UNICEF issues and on President Collor's actions in New York. Chile's leading newspaper, *El Mercurio*, and other papers carried a photograph of Mr. Grant with President Aylwin on the front page. Uruguay's *El País* and *El Día* featured major articles.

In Colombia, the Summit received the widest coverage ever accorded an event related to children. Radio Cadena Caracol, one of the most important in the region, aired the entire gathering live, while the television network reported on the event and broadcast special programmes. Ecuadorean television broadcast an interview with Mr. Grant the day of the Summit and newspapers ran numerous front-page stories. A number of large spreads on children were published in the Peruvian press. *Presencia*, Bolivia's largest daily, carried a four-page special insert on the Summit. Venezuela had extensive radio, television and press coverage, with major articles on the Summit itself and topical articles on child health, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and adult literacy.

In El Salvador, the major newspaper, *Prensa Gráfica*, published a 12-page supplement on children and the Summit. Honduran newspapers ran articles on some of the substantive issues, news stories from the United Nations and pictures and stories on the candlelight vigils. Editorials and front-page articles ran in the Jamaican press. Extensive articles also ran in the press in Barbados, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Panama.

La Gaceta
Argentina

LA GACETA

Compromisos sobre la niñez

El Tribuno
Argentina

El Tribuno

Director: Roberto Eduardo Romero

Por los niños del mundo

Caribbean Week

Trinidad: Getting back on track

Caribbean Week
Barbados

Caribbean Week — *Photo story*

Historic summit's aim

World leaders will try to solve universal problems

Caribbean Week — *Photo story*

is to save the children

Above and left: *Presencia*
Bolivia

¿Qué se hace por nosotros?

Jornal de Brasília
Brazil

Bush promete juros menores para a dívida

Num encontro programado para meia hora, mas que durou 40 minutos, George Bush disse ontem ao Presidente Collor que, por ter negociado com o Congresso corte de US$ 500 bilhões no déficit público dos EUA em dez anos, as taxas de juros fatalmente cairão, beneficiando países como o Brasil, com elevado endividamento externo. Bush apoiou a tese de Collor — a dívida dos países em desenvolvimento não pode ser saldada com o sacrifício do crescimento. O Presidente americano confirmou que virá ao Brasil em dezembro. Collor disse a Bush que enviará ao Congresso projeto de lei que proíba brasileiros com acesso a informações secretas de trabalhar para outros países. Bush pediu que Collor interceda para um acordo na rodada uruguaia do Gatt e o Presidente brasileiro disse que quer ampliar os termos do Tratado de Tlatelolco. **Página 9**

EUA confirma visita ao Brasil em dezembro

O Globo
Brazil

Bush promete a Collor baixar juros

Presidente propõe a conversão da dívida

Nos discursos, a imagem de um novo Brasil

Compromisso com direitos da infância

Bush pede apoio do Brasil contra barreiras européias

Folha de São Paulo
Brazil

Collor sugere converter dívida em fundo social

Do enviado especial (*)

O presidente Fernando Collor, 41, sugeriu a conversão de títulos da dívida externa em um fundo de investimento de programas sociais, ao discursar na Cúpula Mundial da Criança. O encontro, promovido pelas Nações Unidas, terminou ontem na sede da ONU, em Nova York, às 17h (hora local), com a assinatura da "Declaração Mundial sobre a Sobrevivência, Proteção e Desenvolvimento da Criança".

Ele afirmou que a melhoria das condições de vida das crianças depende do crescimento econômico e do fim das "distorções da economia mundial". Collor pediu uma solução "justa e durável" para a dívida, com sua redução e a conversão de parte dos débitos em investimentos sociais.

O presidente ganhou, ontem, uma pequena nota no "New York Times". Publicado na página dois do caderno de economia, com o título "Pressão sobre o Brasil", o texto destacou o problema da dívida externa.

Segundo o jornal, Collor disse que respeita os pedidos americanos pela queda de barreiras comerciais e pela proteção das florestas tropicais, mas considera a dívida com os bancos privados um outro problema.

O ministro da Marinha, Mario Cesar Flores, considerou "inoportuna" a visita dos militares do controle das pesquisas nucleares.

"Eu nunca ouvi falar nada sobre isso", disse o ministro ontem à noite, em São José dos Campos (85 km a nordeste de SP). A declaração de Torres se referia às informações do secretário de Ciência e Tecnologia, José Goldemberg, de que o governo estuda a criação de um órgão para controlar o programa nuclear brasileiro. (SI)

(*) ENVIADO VITOR FACIOLLI, de Nova York, e Sucursal do Rio de Janeiro

Correio Braziliense
Brazil

Collor defende na ONU a conversão da dívida

Crianças terão apoio mundial

Collor tem apoio de Bush na solução da dívida externa

EL MERCURIO

De América Latina:

Pdte. Aylwin Se Reunió con 14 Jefes de Estado

Inflación Estimativa de 18% Para el Presupuesto de 1991

Acuerdo con EE.UU. Destaca Aporte Chileno al Libre Comercio

Tribunal Rechazó Plan Electoral de Alemania Unificada

Pdte. Aylwin Se Reunió

Above and left: *El Mercurio*
Chile

Papa Defiende el Derecho A la Vida de los Infantes

El Mercurio
Chile

HOGAR

Sección C

Naciones se unen por los niños

En el mundo mueren diariamente cerca de 40.000 niños víctimas de la desnutrición, las malas condiciones y toda clase de enfermedades. Los países del Tercer Mundo son los más afectados. Es preciso renovar los compromisos en favor de la infancia. Setenta líderes del mundo se reúnen este fin de semana para hacerle frente a este problema.

Cerca de 15 millones de niños mueren al año en el mundo

Organiza Unicef

El Espectador
Colombia

Ponencia favorable en el Senado para ratificar derechos del niño

"A la rueda, rueda..."

La República
Costa Rica

El próximo sábado

Realizarán vigilia por los derechos del niño

Beatriz Quesada Chanto

El próximo sábado se realizará en el Teatro Nacional la vigilia por los derechos del niño, como un medio de apoyo a la cumbre mundial de presidentes en favor de la infancia, que paralelamente se estará realizando en la sede de Naciones Unidas (ONU), en Nueva York.

En la actividad, que se iniciará a las 4 p.m. y concluirá a las 7 p.m., participarán cientos de niños de todo el país, quienes presenciarán la intervención de grupos corales, de danza, de la Escuela de Artes Musicales de la Universidad de Costa Rica y la Orquesta Sinfónica Juvenil.

Además, escucharán las palabras de diversas personalidades nacionales vinculadas con la defensa de la niñez, así como varias reflexiones sobre los derechos de los niños.

Al igual que en nuestro país, en todas las naciones del mundo se estarán realizando simultáneamente actividades similares como una muestra de apoyo a la Convención Internacional de los Derechos del Niño y en procura de que los mandatarios —entre ellos el Lic. Rafael Angel Calderón Fournier (Presidente de la República)—, reunidos en la cumbre de la ONU, se comprometan a dar prioridad a la niñez en sus planes políticos y de desarrollo.

"Un promedio de 40 000 niños mueren al día en el mundo por desnutrición, mientras se invierten incalculables sumas de dinero en armamento, aun en países subdesarrollados. Con solo el 5% del presupuesto mundial utilizado para asuntos de guerra, podríamos resolver la terrible situación de la niñez", aseguró el Lic. Mario Víquez, defensor de los derechos del niño en Costa Rica.

El Lic. Víquez resaltó la importancia de la cumbre, como un medio para que los presidentes sobre la [illegible] la niñez en cada

Vigilia en el Teatro Nacional, como medio de apoyo a la cumbre mundial de presidentes en favor de la infancia, que paralelamente se estará realizando en la sede de Naciones Unidas (ONU), en Nueva York.

La Prensa Libre
Costa Rica

"Que los Derechos de la Niña y el Niño sean una realidad Nacional y Universal."

La Nación
Costa Rica

Desaparecer las lágrimas de nuestros niños

Gente 1C

Desaparecer las lágrimas de nuestros niños

Gente 1B

Cumbre Mundial por los Niños

Diario del Caribe
Dominican Republic

Hoy

POLITICA

Una esperanza para los niños

Una carta al presidente

70 presidentes en cumbre mundial de la infancia

NUEVA YORK, 28. Cerca de 70 jefes de gobiernos y de Estado del mundo se reunirán este sábado y domingo en la denominada "Cumbre Mundial de la Infancia", organizada por el Fondo de las Naciones Unidas para la Infancia (UNICEF), en Nueva York, en la sede de las Naciones Unidas.

Durante la cumbre, la más importante de la historia en cuanto al número de jefes de Estado, se espera que quede aprobada, por unanimidad, una declaración sobre la protección de la niñez, junto con la firma de un plan de acción para que el documento resulte efectivo.

Los presidentes de Ecuador, Rodrigo Borja, y de Cuba, Fidel Castro, declinaron invitación a última hora

Un portavoz del secretariado de la cumbre dijo que la declaración pretende ser un compromiso político, mientras que el plan de acción busca identificar acciones específicas para asegurar "la supervivencia, la protección y el desarrollo" de la niñez.

El plan pretende ser una guía para los gobiernos nacionales, las organizaciones internacionales, las entidades de ayuda bilaterales, organizaciones no gubernamentales y otros sectores de la sociedad, que les ayude a formular sus propios programas para asegurar la efectividad de la declaración.

Los presidentes de Ecuador, Rodrigo Borja, y de Cuba, Fidel Castro, declinaron la invitación a última hora, debido a los problemas internos que afrontan en sus respectivos países.

(EFE)

Below and right: Hoy
Ecuador

La Prensa Gráfica
El Salvador

El Diario de Hoy
El Salvador

'Los niños y nosotros'

El Diario de Hoy

NAPOLEON VIERA ALTAMIRANO
MERCEDES MADRIZ DE ALTAMIRANO
FUNDADORES

¢ 1.00

Año LIV Nº 18640 72 Págs. San Salvador, Lunes 1 de Octubre de 1990.

LLAMADO UNANIME DEL MUNDO POR LOS NIÑOS

Detalles en página 13

Día del Niño

Con una serie de actos alusivos y fiestas infantiles por parte de instituciones publicas y privadas, y en medio de las celebraciones del Dia Internacional del Niño, El Salvador se suma hoy al propósito unánime mundial de procurar un futuro mejor, sin hambre y ni enfermedades, para la niñez del planeta, adquirido por los lideres del globo en las Naciones Unidas el pasado fin de semana. La Procuraduria General de la Republica agasajó y regaló juguetes a centenares de niños el sábado.

Mantendrán Mercado Libre de Café por Otros 2 Años

Detalles en Pag. 13

SOMMET MONDIAL POUR L'ENFANT

Le Fonds des Nations-Unies (UNICEF) annonce la tenue d'un Sommet Mondial pour les Enfants les 29 et 30 Septembre 1990 au Siège des Nations-Unies à New-York.

Le Sommet Mondial pour les Enfants, permettra aux dirigeants des gouvernements du monde entier d'aider à résoudre pour la première fois certains des problèmes universels qui se posent.

Quand les représentants des gouvernements se réuniront en Septembre aux Nations-Unies, ils pourront formuler de nouveaux décrets et mobiliser des ressources qui assureront aux générations présentes et futures un avenir meilleur et durable qui sera l'héritage du XXIème siècle.

Le Sommet aura lieu à une époque de changements politiques spectaculaires dans le monde entier et d'une diminution des tensions internationales. Pour la première fois depuis plus d'un demi-siècle, les nations pourront aller au-delà des hostilités pour donner au monde un meilleur cadre de vie.

Le Sommet abordera aussi les problèmes des enfants détérioration de l'environnement, à la toxicomanie et à la rupture du

Haiti en Marche
Haiti

Haiti au sommet mondial de l'enfance à l'ONU

De bonne source, nous apprenons que le ministre des Affaires Sociales, le Dr Carlo A. Desinor, representera le president Ertha Pascal Trouillot au sommet mondial pour l'enfant qui se tiendra les 29 et 30 septembre 1990 au siege des Nations Unies à New York.

Le Nouvelliste
Haiti

La representation de l'UNICEF renseigne

Le Nouvelliste
Haiti

Miles de niños piden un futuro libre de pobrezas, con seguridad y valores

● 3,000 infantes efectuaron una vigilia en apoyo a la Cumbre Mundial Pro Infancia.

El Heraldo
Honduras

Tiempo
Honduras

En víspera de cumbre de presidentes en la ONU

A vigilia por niñez exhorta Monseñor

PAGINA - 2

SAN PEDRO SULA.-Con el lema "Los Niños Vienen Primero" en varias iglesias y parques del país los niños hondureños comenzaron una Vigilia para orar por la paz del mundo e iluminar a los 70 mandatarios que participarán en la reunión cumbre en favor de la infancia en Nueva York el próximo 29 y 30 de este mes. En su homilía dominical en la Catedral Metropolitana, monseñor Héctor Enrique Santos, se refirió al evento y pidió acompañar espiritualmente, a través de una vigilia a desarrollarse el próximo sábado frente la la Catedral capitalina, al presidente Callejas Romero y su esposa que participarán en el cónclave. En la gráfica, niños oran en la iglesia San José de aquí.(Foto Santos Ferrera). Información página 2.

La Prensa
Honduras

Reunión de la infancia cubana con propósito
para atraer la atención sobre problemas sociales
Jefes de Estado adoptan ambicioso
programa de acción a favor de los niños

El Heraldo
Honduras

La Tribuna
Honduras

The Daily Gleaner
Jamaica

PAGE TWENTY-SIX THE DAILY GLEANER, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1990

Rattray wants legal protection for children

JUSTICE Minister and Attorney General, Carl Rattray wants a legal charter enacted in Jamaica which would compel the state to "acknowledge" the right of children to a minimum level of care.

He was speaking on Sunday at the Candlelight Vigil aimed at promoting the World Summit for Children to be held at the United Nations (UN) in New York on September 29 — 30, at the Police Officers Club, Hope Road.

Mr. Rattray said however, that although Jamaica did not as yet have a charter for children there were serveral laws offering protection.

An outstanding example was the Status of Children Act, which removed the stigma attached to the majority of children, that of being born to unmarried parents.

This move, he said, was an indication to society that children had a primary right to equality — in treatment and under the law.

He pointed out that there were other pieces of legislation for children pertaining to custody, adoption, lock-up, and work.

Carl Rattray

Regarding the Convention on the Rights of the Child which is to be the focus of the World Summit, the Justice Minister said the Convention was a remarkable landmark and would set the benchmark for nations of the world to ensure the development, protection and survival of children.

Citing the widespread neglect of children worldwide, Mr. Rattray said there could be no future for mankind if children were stultified in their development.

He pointed out that 40,000 children under the age of five die every day in developing coutires, the majority from preventable diseases, and the lack of adequate health care, nutrition, clean water and sanitation.

Some 50 million children are expected to die over the next 10 years, he added.

Minister of Youth and Community Development, the Hon. Dr. Douglas Manley will be attending the summit which is expected to provide impetus for the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Convention is a legal codification of society's responsibilities to children, adopted by the UN General Assembly on November 20, 1989, the 30th anniversary of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child.

Ratification by 20 nations is needed to bring the Convention into force.

In addition to being held in 74 other countires, Sunday's vigil was held simultaneously at the St. James Parish Church, Montego Bay and the Cecil Charlton Park, Mandeville.

The Jamaica Record
Jamaica

Editorial Giving 'first call' to children

Tiempo
Honduras

Marcha Pro-Derechos de Niños

SAN PEDRO SULA. Decenas de niños participaron ayer en una caminata como parte de los actos de inauguración de la Jornada en Defensa de los Derechos del Niño. Los menores portaron pancartas con mensajes alusivos al evento. En los actos participaron autoridades municipales, presidas por el alcalde Tito Guillén .Más información en página 10.(Foto Color de FIMOLI-Separación Manuel Jiménez).

Vale 0.70 Ctvs.

REVISTA DE REVISTAS

Did you know that 1.5 billion children are likely to be born and that 150 million children will die during this decade; that 8,000 children die every day because of measles, whooping cough and tetanus; that 7,000 children die every day because of the dehydration caused by diarrhoea; that 6,000 children die every day of pneumonia; that almost 15 million children under the age of five die every year; that half a million mothers die annually in childbirth or as a consequence of pregnancy or labour; that 40 per cent of children under the age of five in developing countries suffer from malnutrition; that only half of the developing world's children have access to clean drinking water, and even fewer have access to sanitation; that only about 100 million primary school age children take part in any educational programme; that worldwide approximately 50 per cent of adult women and 30 per cent of adult men are illiterate; or that children are the ones who suffer most in times of war?

Or did you know, for example, that today 20,000 children will die of curable diseases; 100,000 more will become malnourished, 115,000 will drop out of primary school and unaccounted millions will be exploited and abused?

And did you know that preventing the deaths of 50 million children in the 1990s will cost US$2.5 billion? This equals the amount of money spent monthly on advertising by American cigarette manufacturers and the amount of money spent daily on military activities in the world.

So, what is being done?

Tom Espenshade, of the Office of Demographic Research of Princeton University, suggested that the Population Reference Bureau try and convey an idea of the magnitude of world population figures in a manner more comprehensible to the lay person.

The Office calculates the world's population as of mid-1989 as being 5,234 billion people. The United Nations' 1989

Revista de Revistas
Mexico

estimates indicate that from 1985 to 1990 the world's population increased, on the average, by 88 million people a year. On the basis of these estimates, Espenshade made the following calculations:

"Supposing that the average person (including men, women and children) is 5'3" tall; 1,000 people, laid end to end, would equal one mile. The 1989 world population would then be the equivalent of 8,426,740 km. of people. This would be enough people to: a) circle the earth 210 times; b) make 22 round trips to the Moon; and c) cover almost 6 per cent of the distance from the earth to the sun. This line would increase by 141,680 km. yearly, or 388 km. daily.

From this one can conclude that we are experiencing the birth of the largest generation the earth has ever seen and yet, we are also proving the vulnerability of the ecosystems and of the social structures which could guarantee these new human beings decent living conditions.

The questions which began this article should, hopefully, be an invitation to reflection. We are condemning to destruction millions of children without a trace of sorrow . . . We are reading figures unmoved, evading personal responsibility.

Revista de Revistas
Mexico

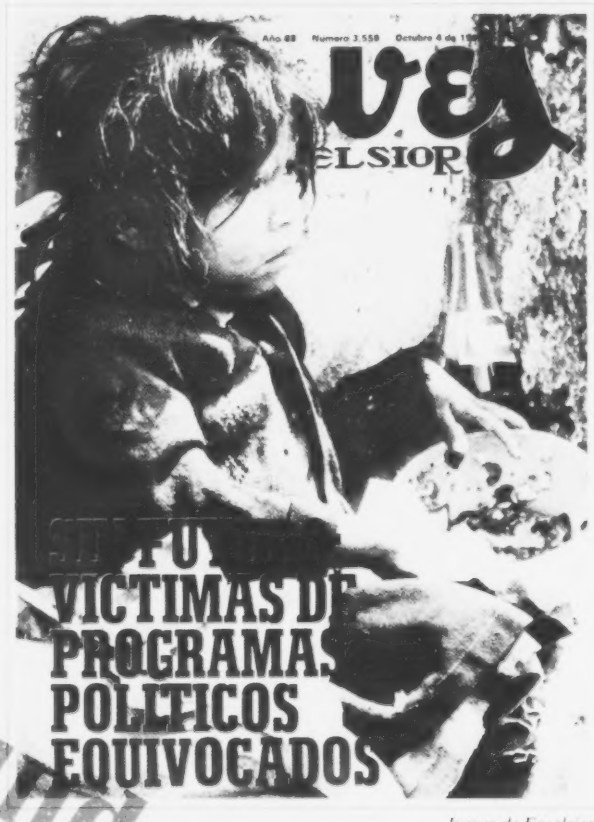
We are enmeshed in fanatical religious ideas, stupid segregation, unworkable political ideologies . . . and who will care for the little ones who share their solitude with piles of garbage and legions of rats? Who will teach them the value of love in alleys where they make a few cents? Who will wipe their tears . . .

Can the present and following generation of parents avoid disaster?

September 30, 1990; presidents and prime ministers of the five continents met at the United Nations in New York, to decide what to do about this situation.

What are we going to d . ?

(translated excerpt)



Jueves de Excelsior
Mexico

Jueves de Excelsior
Mexico

BARRICADA

ORGANO OFICIAL DEL FRENTE SANDINISTA DE LIBERACION NACIONAL

Hasta el momento, en la "Cumbre" sólo se han escuchado brindis en homenaje a los niños del mundo.

Inaugurada Cumbre sobre la Infancia

Compromiso con niños del Tercer Mundo

NACIONES UNIDAS, Nueva York.— La primera Cumbre sobre la Infancia fue inaugurada ayer domingo, en el Palacio de las Naciones Unidas, en esta metrópoli, en presencia de 71 Jefes de Estado o de Gobierno, reuniendo un compromiso explícito con los niños del Tercer Mundo.

Varios de los altos dignatarios que llegaron sucesivamente entre las siete y nueve de la mañana, hora local, a la sede de la ONU —rodeada de estrictas medidas de seguridad— firmaron o depositaron los instrumentos de ratificación de la Convención sobre los Derechos del Niño.

Una foto de familia, conmemorando esta excepcional concentración de gobernantes en la ONU, debió preceder el inicio formal de las discusiones, previstas a partir de las nueve y media.

Después de la sesión inaugural y de dos sesiones de trabajo, en las cuales habrá unas 30 declaraciones, los participantes deblan aprobar al final de la jornada, una declaración solemne por la que se comprometen a mejorar en forma sensible la suerte de los niños de aquí al año 2000, culminando así la magna reunión.

En la víspera, 64 Jefes de Estado y de Gobierno asistieron a una cena organizada en honor de la inauguración del evento. Los Mandatarios presentes escucharon brindis que rendían homenaje a los niños del mundo.

Por la tarde, unos 20 Jefes de Estado habían asistido a una misa celebrada por el cardenal Agostino Casaroli y el arzobispo de Nueva York, John O'Connor, en una iglesia católica vecina.

La Alcaldía de Nueva York tomó excepcionales medidas de seguridad y todas las calles adyacentes quedaron cerradas al tránsito. Numerosos policías recorrían constantemente todo el entorno de la sede de la ONU. (AFP)

Barricada
Nicaragua

Presidenta en Cumbre de la Infancia

La guerra agrieta las sonrisas de los niños

La Prensa
Nicaragua

...a las sonrisas de los niños

La Estrella de Panamá
Panamá

La que puede hacer usted en favor de la infancia

El Panamá América
Panamá

¿Dónde están los derechos del NIÑO?

Página Libre
Peru

Perú:

La desvalida infancia

Dominical
Peru

GENERATION | JULIA GICHUHI reports on The Street Girls in Part Two of our compe

The Stree

reation of forces yond their control

IT's 2 am. The lights cast a cold glare on the nearly deserted street. The watchmen snuggle closer into their heavy coats against the cold night. On the other side of the pavement, the beggars are fast asleep despite the biting cold. Here and there some staggering drunkards can be spotted, probably on their way to nowhere.

A girl emerges from the corner of the street. She is shabbily dressed. She looks only 13 or 14 years old yet she has an air of confidence as she hovers around the street, unafraid, at such a late hour. And this is River Road, the famous Nairobi street best known for shady characters — especially at this time of night.

Instinctively, she turns and takes a glance at an advancing car. Hurriedly, she changes direction and goes towards the direction of the car. As if there is some understanding between her and whoever is driving, the car slows down.

She grabs its door and gets inside. The posh, clean-kept BMW drives the shabbily dressed girl off.

At the corner poses yet another teenage girl. She looks angry, probably because her friend has been driven off leaving her here. Her eyes are swollen and bloodshot. She staggers as she tries to walk. Her gait communicates pain, hatred and bitterness. A question brings tears to her face.

BEATEN UP

"*Amenipiga tena* (he has beaten me up again)," she says painfully. She does not want to reveal who beat her up, nor the reason. She is afraid. After a long persuasion Nduko (not her real name), talks, probably not because she really wants to, but because she wants to share her sorrows with someone.

Like her colleague, Nduko was picked up from the street just a few hours earlier. Her customer, who was not driving, took her to a dark alley near a rubbish dump.

"As usual" he had sex with her, but refused to pay. To add salt to the wound, the man beat her up when the asked for her Sh20, the price of this said, sick parody of "love".

Asked why she is on the streets, Nduko says her hope of survival lies there. Her home is in Korogocho, the slum area in Nairobi's outer Eastlands, but is she content to be in the streets. "At least now I can get few shillings to buy bread and *ngata* (drugs used by street children), confides the hardened Nduko, so young yet, paradoxically, so sold.

Nduko recalls how she ran away from home when she was about 10 years old. Being a first born among three children in a mother-led family, her drunkard mother, she says, expected her to be responsible for other children.

"As a girl you are capable of bringing some income to this house", she says her mother told her, followed a trail of insults before her mother beat her up. Life proved miserable Nduko who was too naive at the to get a hint of what her mother exactly meant. But it did not take sung to understand; Nduko was advised by a fellow colleague in slum to run away from home, "work" for herself.

STREET LIVES: Beggars now ... but what of tomorrow?

CHANG'AA HOM

Nduko's colleague, Auma, year older, had a different b ground. Both her parents a she had enough of their po stricken home where they chang'aa to earn a livelih option, she decided to tak streets. She is now one of child prostitutes.

* * *

UNLIKE the street boy girls only operate at ni hardly on the scene du Why?

According to Dr Ph of the Department of versity of Nairobi, the girls operate at night because they practice

In 1985 sociology university carried o street girls and four children who have tion are usually be 13 and 14 years.

BECAUSE child prostit be addresse step in hel the econo Onyango

Like a street girl future. selling c offering period to stree

Mo have trainin with them

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the child prostitutes are he older "professional" se they are cheaper and stomers prefer them. es against the professional icemen, who harass them, irls are usually "high". rugs like petrol, glue, alcoen *cannabis sativa* (bhang). eet girl in the main story) g drugs they become "very face almost any eventuality

toxicated they can shame- ve and obscene language any people away from them. the rest of society sees these an ill-mannered, social menace. ted at as "children of nowadays s have decayed".

as made these naive, young girls treets to be socially abused? ociety, our society, not necessarily of girls.

family where they are overworked, sexually abused by relatives, looked down upon, not given education and to their trauma, some get sent to urban areas at a tender age to work as maids.

Unfortunately, the girls are usually too young to work as domestic servants. Some of their employers, who are themselves often opportunists, may get so frustrated as to assault the small girls. In some cases husbands sexually molest the small girls. If the wife gets to find out, the blame usually falls on the innocent girl who may be beaten up ruthlessly.

In the long run the girls run away, yet they can't go back home because their parents depend on them as breadwinners and they fear consequences. With no much choice, the girls end up in the streets. And since they are by then quite desperate, they become easy prey for the purveyors of child prostitution. After all that may look, even to them in that state, as the only promising and smooth way of staying alive.

Child mothers

months.

Pregnancy at an early age has its own repercussions, two common ones being damage to the bladder or uterus.

In case of these early pregnancies, some girls resort to criminal back street abortion — a risk to their life. Other street girls resort to taking birth control pills haphazardly and this may lead to infertility.

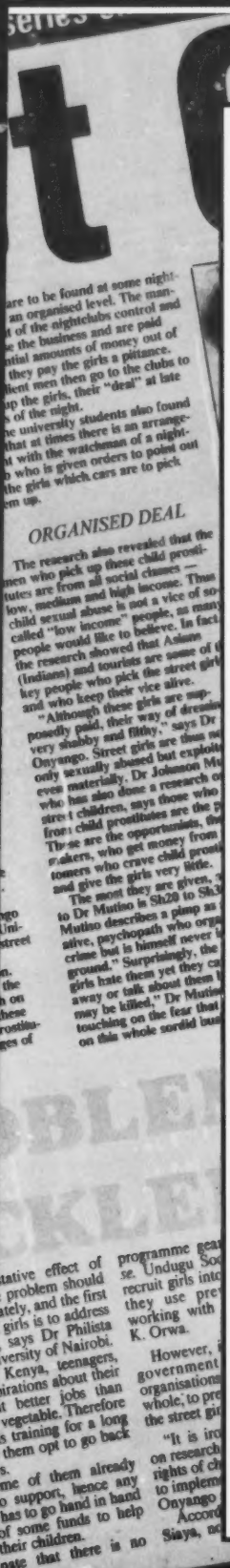
Catch Aids

Sex at an early age may lead to profuse bleeding. This may happen to street girls who are far too young and who at times are engaged in sex with more than one man per night. It is early for the girls to contract Aids or other sexually transmitted diseases.

Apart from these negative health effects, street girls also suffer physical brutalisation and dehumanisation from some of their customers. Dr Mutiso says some of the men who pick street girls have mental problems. As such they will physically beat up the girls and in a brutal way abuse them sexually.

Street girls also suffer psychologically. They hate the hard life they go through and have low self-esteem. Little wonder then that they take drugs to "forget" about themselves.

Street girls are also violent and prone to


Girls
are to be found at some night-
an organised level. The man-
t of the nightclubs control and
e the business and are paid
ntial amounts of money out of
they pay the girls a pittance.
lient men then go to the clubs to
up the girls, their "deal" at late
s of the night.
he university students also found
that at times there is an arrange-
t with the watchman of a night-
who is given orders to point out
the girls which cars are to pick
em up.
ORGANISED DEAL
The research also revealed that the
men who pick up these child prosti-
tutes are from all social classes —
low, medium and high income. Thus
child sexual abuse is not a vice of so-
called "low income" people, as many
people would like to believe. In fact,
the research showed that Asians
(Indians) and tourists are some of t
key people who pick the street girls
and who keep their vice alive.
"Although these girls are sup-
posedly paid, their way of dressin
very shabby and filthy," says Dr
Onyango. Street girls are thus ne
only sexually abused but exploit
even materially. Dr Johnson Mu
who has also done a research o
street children, says those who
from child prostitutes are the p
Th-se are the opportunists, the
makers, who get money from
tomers who crave child prosti
and give the girls very little.
The most they are given, y
to Dr Mutiso is Sh20 to Sh3
Mutiso describes a pimp as
sative, psychopath who orga
crime but is himself never
ground." Surprisingly, the
girls hate them yet they ca
away or talk about them
may be killed," Dr Mutis
touching on the fear that
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says Dr Philista
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There were several occasions in sub-Saharan Africa where the media took advantage of the Summit to develop in-depth stories on the situation of children. Examples of such coverage stretched across the continent. In Senegal, national television ran a series of 20-minute programmes covering immunization, primary health care, education, child prostitution and street children. *The Herald*, the largest newspaper in Zimbabwe, used the occasion of the Summit to interview ministers involved with child development and ran major stories on how Zimbabwe was faring in a number of areas involving child welfare.

Coverage was consistently high throughout the continent. Among other highlights were front-page articles in the Mali press featuring the activities of President Moussa Traoré, co-chairman of the Summit, a special supplement of *The Times of Namibia* on children, the cover article in Senegal's *Le Soleil* magazine, the lead of the *Gambia Weekly* and front-page articles in the *Cameroon Tribune*, in the daily *Sidwaya* in Burkina Faso and in several Ugandan newspapers. The Guinea-Bissau national newspaper, *No Pintcha*, featured the Summit logo in its articles leading up to the meeting, as did newspapers in a number of other countries.

The Kenyan press ran eye-appealing photo-story layouts with extensive treatment of child survival and some criticism of holding an international meeting while children were suffering.

A compilation of Nigerian press coverage ran to almost 100 pages, including numerous front-page articles. In Ethiopia, both Amharic and English-language newspapers carried front-page stories. The Mozambican press front-paged the Summit for seven straight days. Other countries where significant coverage occurred included Botswana, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Madagascar, Sierra Leone, Swaziland and Tanzania.

The Guardian
Botswana

PAGE 13 THE GUARDIAN FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 28 1990

SUMMIT ON KIDS STARTS

The World Summit for Children on September 29 to 30 offers a historic opportunity for world leaders to improve the lot of millions of young people. Pre-summit rhetoric has been strong, but the Gulf crisis may divert the leaders' political energies. And, as GEMINI NEWS SERVICE reports, other political ramblings have already upset plans for a "non-political" summit.

By Ejvi Rantissee

Concern for children is the driving force of the world's first East-West-North South summit. More than 70 presidents, kings, and prime ministers will participate in The World Summit for Children at UN headquarters in New York, making it the largest gathering of heads of state in history.

President George Bush of the United States, President Francois Mitterrand of France and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher will be there.

The purpose of the unprecedented gathering is to focus on universal problems affecting children. Protection from easily preventable diseases, adequate nutrition, education, homelessness, abandonment, drugs, the impact of AIDS and child labour and exploitation are some of the issues to be addressed.

The leaders' good intentions, however, could drown in the troubled waters of the Gulf. The politicians may turn out to be more concerned about coordinating action against Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and push children into the background, as in the past.

Politics has also upset the heads of states themselves. Benazir Bhutto of Pakistan, one of the six initiators of the summit, is no longer Prime Minister.

According to Pakistani sources, her dismissal was arranged to take place in advance of the summit out of fear that the worldwide recognition afforded her as its co-chair with Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney would have increased her popularity at home as well as abroad.

Pakistan will now be represented by interim Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi. However, according to UN sources, the summit preparatory committee rejected Islamabad's demand that Jatoi be designated to replace Bhutto as co-chairman. Instead, the committee named President Mousse Traore of Mali to the post.

The loss of Bhutto has upset many involved in the summit. "The World Summit for Children lost its mother-figure," said a representative based at the UN for a humanitarian non-governmental organisation (NGO).

Bhutto was the only woman and mother among the six convenors of the conference and one of the three women national leaders expected to attend. The other two are Thatcher and President Corazon Aquino of the Philippines and, as the NGO representative said: "Maggie Thatcher hardly represents feminine energy."

The summit was meant to be non-political, as described at a joint press conference given by Canadian Ambassador L. Yves Fortier, speaking for Mulroney, and by James P. Grant, Executive Director of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), whose agency set up the summit secretariat.

But politics emerged at the outset and anomalies abound. The summit is not a UN conference, although it is being held at UN headquarters. Say the organisers: "It is convenient, during the General Assembly session, and less expensive at the cost of $1.5 million than if convened elsewhere."

UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar was asked to send formal invitations to this non-UN meeting to UN members.

The preparatory committee, composed of government representatives, excluded President F.W. de Klerk from the list on the grounds that South Africa is considered "not in good standing with the UN" because of non-payment of its assessed dues.

However, its apartheid policies and UN sanctions are thought to be the underlying reason for the non-admittance. Fortier assured the press that the welfare of South Africa's children, black and white, would be considered.

Despite complications, the summit has already met one of its objectives even before convening. The Convention of the Rights of the Child, adopted by the UN General Assembly last November, reached its required 20 ratifications, and became international law applicable to the ratifying countries from September 2. No human rights treaty has ever come into force so quickly.

The meeting was first proposed in UNICEF's 1989 State of the World's Children Report and is attributed to the energetic Grant.

When, at the end of the Eighties the condition of children had deteriorated partly due to the burden of Third World debt and increases in global military spending at the expense of social programmes, six government leaders decided that children were worth two days of their own and the world community's time.

In February 1990, Bhutto, Mulroney, and Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson of Sweden were joined by Presidents Mohammed Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, Carlos Salinas de Gortari of Mexico and Traore in announcing the World Summit for Children.

The statement was endorsed by more than 100 governments and supported by summit meetings of the Organisation of African Unity, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Commonwealth nations and the Francophone countries.

The overall aim of the World Summit is to put children "high and firmly on the agenda of the Nineties, giving them priority or first call on the world's resources in good times or bad, war or peace."

Sidwaya
Burkina Faso

N° 3305 SAMEDI 29 SEPT. 1990

Le Renouveau du Burundi

Administration Rédaction Abonnements et Publicité

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13è Année

Sommet Mondial de l'Enfance

MOBILISATION CONTRE UN CARNAGE SILENCIEUX

LA 2ème CONFERENCE DE LES PMA

DAVANTAGE DE DONS, MOINS DE P.M.A. DE TROUVER SES VOIES FRC MENT.

Sommet Mondial de l'Enfance

MOBILISATION CONTRE UN CARNAGE SILENCIEUX

Suite de la première page

L'UNICEF veut réduire des millions d'enfants de mortalité maternelle dans les rues : vendeurs infantile à la sauvette, ramasseurs en l'an 2000. La vaccina- d'ordures, cireurs on est loin de la couver- de chaussures, ils ture à 100 % et de vivent aussi de larcins, la guerison d'autres Bréail, ils sont 7 mil- pathologies (paludisme, lions, au Mexique 250.000. déficits de croissance, Certains sont "tortu- avitaminoses). la police, sous couvert

En outre, la malnu- d'escadrons de la trition touche 40 % des indique Amnesty enfants de moins de tional, qui cinq ans dans le monde "exécutions et un sur deux a accès arbitraires" à l'eau potable. 7 tion d'enfants dier suppose, en plus moyen de de l'aide, des pays leurs riches, de longs (Brésil, développement place cités (irrigation, assainissement local (Bolivie, sen, cultures) et une Philippines, éducation alimentaire Salvador, d'ailleurs, droits bafoués sur le plan des enfants sont mes de sévissent enfants ou d'abus sexuels, liale au l'intellectuel: enrôlés dans des conflits 900 mil- armés (Iran, millions d'en- Cambodge...), non scolarisés, ou contraints à l'exil (Boat People). Aux Etats- Unis, des mineurs sont condamnés à mort. En Roumanie, des foyers maintiennent orphelins handicapés en état de sous-alimentation, de 40 %, selon l'UNICEF. Enfin, d'enfants les trafics sources de revenus. En novembre 1987, Conseil de l'Europe dé- nonçait officiellement la prostitution, l'escla- vage, la vente d'enfants pour adoption.

Il y a 50.000 prosti- tués de moins de 15 ans à Bangkok, affirme l'UNICEF, qui estime que le "tourisme sexuel" - avec en corollaire, maladies et stupefiants - est en pleine expansion.

Le Renouveau
Burundi

CAMEROON TRIBUNE

GRAND QUOTIDIEN NATIONAL D'INF

Foot - Division I

Racing : d'où vient le malaise ?

Congo

On opte pour le multipartisme

Après la dissolution de la SOCADRA, Joe Mboulé à C. T. :

« Nous sommes pour la privatisation »

Enfants du monde

Un sommet pour la survie

Cameroon Tribune
Cameroon

SOCIETE

Les engagements des adultes

Ivoire Soir
Côte d'Ivoire

Savoir plus

ENFANCE DESHERITEE

Encadreurs: motivons-les

DROITS DE L'ENFANT

La convention en vigueur

SOCIETE

LES 29 ET 30 SEPTEMBRE A NEW YORK

75 chefs d'État à l'écoute des problèmes de l'enfant

La radio au cœur de l'événement

Fraternité Matin
Côte d'Ivoire

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የ‹‹ተ‹ኪ›› ‹‹ው›ልድን ደኅንነት ለማስጠበቅ

የአንድን ትውልድ ልማትና ዋፋት ውጤት ተቀባይ ተተኪው ትውልድ ነው ። ፤ውልድ በዘመን ፤ አንድነቱን እንደጠበቀ አሰምርበት ። በዕውቀት አንጻ ለእድገትና ብልፅግና የሚበጅ ተግባር እመቻችቶ ካለፈ ተተኪው ትውልድ ባገኘው ሲኅፎ ደያሰታል ። ይበልጥ ተበረታትቶም የላቀ ውጤት ለማስመዝገብ ይጥራል ። በእንጻሩም ከልማት ይልቅ ዋፋት አደሉ ከታየ በት ፤ ማደምነት ከሰፈነበት ደህንነቱና በሽታ ከማፈታተኑና የመርጎት ሰለባ ከሆነ ትውልደ የሚተርፈው ነገር ቢኖር የባሰ ችግር ነው ።

ዓለማችን የምትገኝበት ባለ ብዙ ፈርጅ ችግር ምክንያትም ለመገዚደ ነት ከተጠቀሰው መሰረታዊ ነጥቦች ውጭ አደደለም ። በእውና ይቴታ እን ኳን ብንመለከት በ‹‹ዙ ሺህ የማቆ ጠሩ የህበረተሰቡ ክፍሎች በረሃብና በመርጎት ማቢደ እረቸውን ለቅው ለስደት ተጻርገዋል ። የእርስ በርስ መርነት ደካሄዳል ፤ የዘርመድልዎን ለማስውገድ የሞት ጎረት ፍልሚደ ደደረጋል ፤ የአንዳ አገር በሌላው ጣልተ መግባት በግፈዋሪው የሰላም መታጣት ችግር ፤ ሉንድነትን ለማስ ጠበትና ደንበርን ፤ ማስከበር ትግል በ‹‹ዙ ሚሊዮን ጎር የሚገመት መዋ ዕል ንዋደ ለመርነት ይፈሳል ። ከዚህ አኳደ የማሞ የሰው ልጅ ሰብዕና እንዲ ጠበቅ ሰላም እንዲሰፍን በግለማችን የሰቆቱ ጩኸት እንዲያቆም ኃያላን አሠቸ እያደረጉ ደለው ጥረት መል ካም ተስፋን መፈንጠቁ አልቀረም ። ትውልድ ግዲታውን በተገቢ ሁኔታ እንዲወጣ ያበረታታልና ።

የዚህ ህብረተሰብ በተለያዩ ችግር መዋዋ ሕጻናት ከመጀመሪያው እን ስቶ ሊያረግላቸው የሚገባውን እንክ ብካቤ እንዳያገኙ ያደርጋል ። በሚፈ ጠረው የተለያዩ እደጋም የመጀመሪያ ተጠቂ ናቸው ። በሞት ከመቀሰፍ የጻ ነት ህጻናት የትምህርት ዕደል ለማግ ኘት የታደሉ እደደሉም ። በርካሽ ጉል በት የሚያገለግሉ በመሆናቸውና ከቁ ጥጥር ውጪ የመሆን አጋጣሚ ስለ ሚያነኝም ለወጣት ዋፋተኞነት የተ ጋለጡ ናቸው ። በዚህና በመሳሰሉት ምክንያት በሚፈጠረው አሰቸጋሪ ሁኔ ታም ለአገር ልማት መዋል ያለበት አፍላ ጉልበት መና ይቀረል ። ዕድገቱ ባልተረጋገጠና ሰላም ባልሰፈነበት አገር የሚኖር ሕዝብ ከእጅ ወደ አፍ በሆነ ኑሮ የሚዋትት ነው ። ስለበተ ሰብ ምጣኔ በቂ ግንዛቤ የሌለው ፤ የመ ሠረታዊ ጤና ከብክበክ ጉርሻገዎ ክክ ተማእስከገመር ተግባራዊ ያልሆነበት የመሠረታዊ ነገሮች ተጠቃሚነት ያልተሟላበት በመሆኑየአከኖሚና የማ ህበራዊ ጉዳዮች ችግር የከረረ ነው ።

ዝቅተኛ አከኖሚ ካለው ጎብረተ ሰብ የሚገኙት ሕጻናት ተስፋ የጨ ለመ መሆኑ አያጠያይቅም ። ዓለማቀ ፋዊው አሳሳበ ችግር እንዲት ይወ ገድ ፤ይህ የዓለምን መንግሥታት በብ ሔራዊ ደረጃ ያሳሰበ አልፎም በጋራ መድረክ ያወያየ ፤ ስልት ያስቀየሰና ውሳኔየተላለፈበት ጭምር ነው ። ለም ሳሌ በተባበሩት መንግሥታት ድር ጅት ሕጋዊ ተቀባይነትን ያገኘው የሕ ጻናት መብት ውሳኔ (ኮንቬኪሽን) አንዱና ዋናው ነው ። የዚህ ውሳኔ ዋና ዓላማ ሁሉም ሕጻናት ትኩረት እንዲ ሰጣቸው ፤ አለአግባብ ጉልበታቸው እንዳይበዘበዝና በዝቅተኝነት እንዳ ይቃዩ ማድረግ ነው ። ተግባራዊ እን ቅስቃሴውም በአራት አበይት ነጥቦች ግለትም የውሰንም ሕጻናት ሕይወት ማዳን ፤ ልማት ማካሄድ ፤ ለሕጻናት አስፈላጊውን እንክብካቤ ማድረግና በዚህ መስክ ሁሉም ተባትርውን ግጠ ናክር በሚለው ላይ ይመሰረታል ። አበ ይት ነጥቦቹ ያሰመሩባቸው ጉዳዮች ሕጻናት በማያውቁትና ባልጠበቁት

ከንዶግሥ አዛዚያም

ሕጻናን መንከባከብ ወንካራ ኃይል ማፍራት ነው ፤

የዚህ ዓለም ችግር ተጠቂ ከመሆናቸው በፊትና ከደረሰባቸውም በኋላ ቢንራ ዋረት ለማዳን በሚቻልበት ሁኔታ መንግሥታትን የሚቶስትስ ነው ።

የሕጻናት ጉዳይ ለምን ታላት የመ ወያደ ርእስ ሆነ ? መሠረቱ ሰብአዊ ነት ነው ። ሕጻናት በእእምሮና በአ ካል ያልጠነከሩ በመሆናቸው ለወደ ፊት ሕይወታቸው መስተካከል ዛሬ ድጋፍ የሚያሻቸው በመሆኑ ፤ የጎብ ረተሰቡን ትኩረት በውሰም መስከ ማኘት አለባቸው ። ለዚህም ነው ከወቅቱ አጣዳፊ ጉዳዮች አኩል የዓ ለም መንግሥታት ለሕጻናት በጉ አስ ተዳደግና እንክብካቤ ከፍተኛ ቦታ የሰጡት ። በየዓመቱ በሚከበረው የዓ ለም ሕጻናት ቀን ለሕጻናት በሚበጁ ተግባራተ ላይ ቃል የተገባውን ፤ ሰለ ህጻናት የተጨበጠውን ግንዛቤ ፤ የተ ጀመረውን ጥረት ··· ወዘተ ይበልዋ ለማጠናከርና ውል ባለው መንገደም አስፈላጊነቱ በየትኛውም ጎብረተሰብ ዘንድ ታውቆ ግልጽ አቋም እንዲወ ሰድ የሚያስችል ስብሰባ በዛራው ዕለት በተባበሩት መንግሥታት ድርጅት ጽ/ቤት ይካሄዳል ። ሕጻናት እ.ኤ.አ. በ፲፱፻፺ዎቹ ለሚያስፈልጋቸው አፋ ጣኝ ድጋፍ ተግባራዊነት ፡፡ በዓለም ሰብሰባ ለህጻናት ። ከፍተኛ የአገር መሪዎች ተሳታፊ ስለሚሆኑ የተያዘ ውን የመወያያ እጅንዳ አጠኑው ሰሩቁ ግብ ጠንካራ መሠረት እንደሚኖሉ ይጠበቃል ።

ወደ አገራችን መለስ ኅንልም የኅ ለም ሕጻናት አካል የሆኑት ሕጻናቶቻ ችን አስፈላጊ ነገሮች የተመቻቸላቸው አደደሉም ። በድርቅ ፤ ንንጣፉ ወንበ ደ ዎች በፈጠሩት መርንትና በተዛባ የቤተሰብ አመሣሣን ምክንያት ከፍ ተኛ ችግር ደደርስባቸዋል ። ለረሃብና ለበሽታም የተጋለጡ ናቸው ። ይህንን መንግሥታችን አይቶ በዘምታ ያለ ረ‹ ጉዳዩ እደደለም ። ህጻናት እንክ ብካቤ ሊያገኙ በሚችሉበት መንገድ ሁሉ አቅም የፈቀደውን ያህል እንዲ ኒናወን አድርጓል ። እያደረገም ነው ። የሕጻናት ፤ የው�ቶች እና የቤተሰብ ችግርና አጠቃላይ ሁኔታን የሚከታ ተል ድርጅት እንዲቋቋም ተደርጓል ። በመሠረታዊ ጤና ክብክቤ ላይ የተመ ሰረተ የቤተሰብ ፖሊሲም ወጥቷል ።

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Addis Zemen
Ethiopia

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'CHILD SURVIVAL NOT AN END'

The Gambia Weekly
Gambia

Dr. Geor
of lot of

Secretar

EDITORIAL

CHILDREN FIRST CALL

A Criança e o meio ambiente

A necessidade de uma nova ordem de consciência

A Criança, o meio ambiente e a civilização humana

Os objectivos da Cimeira Mundia

Novo indicador do desenvolvimento é a taxa de sobrevivência das crianças

A criança e os seus direitos

A degradação do meio ambiente esta matando crianças

Ma nutrição afecta Oio, Cacheu e Biombo

Above and left: *No Pintcha*
Guinea-Bissau

Kenya Times
Kenya

THE LOST GENERATION

JULIA GICHUHI reports on The Street Girls in Part Two of our compelling series on the tragedy of our kids on the run.

The Street Girls

A creation of forces beyond their control

STREET LIVES. Beggars now ... but what of tomorrow?

HANDOUT. The

PART 3 NEXT TUESDAY

Times

DAY OF TRUTH FOR KATAKWA

KENYA KENYA KENYA KENYA KENYA KENYA KENYA KENYA KENYA KENYA KENYA KENYA KEN

16 KENYA TIMES, MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1990

gray phombeah

ON A WORLD THAT CANNOT WIPE AWAY A CHILD'S TEARS

CHILDREN of a lesser GOD!

I was born here against my will ... please accept me

SURVIVAL of the BRIEFEST

A BABY is born unto us, dropped on the cot of disease, starved and then left to die.

There are children who will die little noticed by the world.

There will be no television cameras at their deaths, no public outrage, no demand for action.

These children will not be victims of any sudden flood or famine.

In the 1990 decade alone, more than 100 million children will die this way — of disease and starvation around the world.

Every day, 8,000 children die and will continue to die in the sunken-eyed coma of dehydration from diarrhoea.

Every day, 7,000 will die in the iron grip of whooping cough nd tetanus.

Some 5,000 a day in the grasping agony of pneumonia.

And measles will go on to claim 1.5 million young lives each year.

At the same time, child malnutrition will continue to sap the growth of 150 million under-fives, mostly in poor countries.

In the "lost decade" of the 1980s, 14 million children died every year and the number will climb in the 1990s on a planet that already has over 1 billion people, a fifth of mankind, still lacking adequate food, clean water, electricity, education and basic health care.

In the 1990s, "the decade of despair", 40 million children out of 100 million six-year-olds will drop out of school before completing primary education — to live in street conditions unfit even for stray dogs.

This "Dickens-like" picture of children is painted by a Unicef horror report — The State of the World's Children, 1990 — as a United Nations summit in New York addressed the plight of the world's youngest victims at the weekend.

It's a damning testimony of a world that boasts of living in a high-tech age but lets its children starve dreamlessly and die like lambs to the slaughter house.

This is a cruel world where the $2.5 billion the UN is seeking to save the children, is as much as the Soviet Union has been spending on Vodka, as more displaced children live outside their homes.

The amount is as much as US companies have been spending on advertising cigarettes while more and more children have no place to call home.

It is as much as the developing world is paying every week to service its debts while its children are traumatised by poverty and illness.

And, as much as the entire world spends on vast armies a day while poor children live under the constant death sentence.

This is the kind of world where Coke and Pepsi have virtually reached every village and neighbourhood.

But the packet of oral rehydration salts needed to save a child's life has still to reach every village — particularly those of the developing world devoting half its total annual expenditure in servicing debts and maintaining armies.

These expenses, by poor countries are costing almost $1 billion a day — about $8,800 a year for every family in the Third World.

The military expenditure alone, amounting to $145 billion annually, is enough to wipe out poverty on the planet within the next two years.

While this shameful spectacle was taking its toll on the poor lot the things, leaders of about 75 nations assembled in New York for the Child's Summit, to adopt the children's agenda for the 21st Century.

In a period of severe days before the meeting, 250,000 chidren lay dead — from preventable illness and malnutrition.

The summit A belated gesture from a world that has been so cruel to ones so little.

Despite the Septembee hope, the 1990s may end up as the worst decade of homeless, abused, Aids and drugs-afflicted kids scattered around the world without help.

Gallery Of Shame

THE circumstances of their deaths bear the signature and fingerprints of our cruel world — slow and painful.

Their cry of despair and weeping, without a prayer of escape, goes unheard.

In a world that knows not how to cry for a dying child, 8,000 will die today from diarrhoea.

Whooping cough and tetanus will take 7,000 to unmarked graves as world leaders prepare to leave New York for home today.

By sunset today, 5,000 will lie cuddled together in death from pneumonia as some world leaders turn their attention to the Persian Gulf crisis, the peace settlement in Cambodia and the political revolution in Eastern Europe.

By next year, 14 million children will no longer have any fear of hunger, illness or death — buried in their graves.

By Christmas, 1.5 million others will have found rest from measles as the clock ticks away into the 21st Century.

By the end of the century, 150 million will have crawled like lambs to the slaughterhouse as child malnutrition retards their growth.

The grim picture: More than 100 million will die in the 1990, their lives slipping away as the world looks the other way.

To the survival of the bretest, they will never have known a sheltered life or a blameless time — birthright for every child.

They will have been denied that childhood joy of trailing clouds of innocent glory, the prerequisite of growing up, that parenthesis between birth and responsibility.

So young, so sweet, so soon!

Our Father Who Art in New York

FORTY-ONE presidents, 29 prime ministers, a King, a Grand Duke and a Cardinal.

The place: UN headquarters in New York.

The event: World Summit for Children.

Around the globe, 2,600 candle-light vigils dramatised the plight of the world's most disadvantaged children.

To be in New York, the world leaders spent enough money on travelling expenses to feed thousands of malnourished children.

More was spent to ensure the comfort of the distinguished attendants in a gathering that overshadowed the UN's 40th anniversary ceremonies in 1985.

As they endorsed the action plan to save the world's poorest youngsters, a catalogue of tragedy continued to unfold around the world.

During the two days of the summit:

- 2,800 children died from whooping cough.
- 8,000 children died from measles.
- 4,400 children died from tetanus.
- 5,500 died from malaria.
- 21,000 died from diarrhoea.
- 17,000 children died from pneumonia.

In Nairobi, 13 year-olds Maina, Mutua and Ngugi grazed from the City Commissioner's dustbins, ravaged through garbage and spent another night on the hard cold pavement.

They were joined by Sduko and Auma — street girls living hard and who may die harder on the streets.

Perfecting the art of survival in the sordid street life they have had to compete for food and shelter with the more experienced older street dwellers.

Not far away, the city's nightlife was rushed in a carnival ritual and became obsessed with the contribution to the beauty bandage in search of the prettiest woman in the land.

In New York, glasses were raised to a document recognising the Rights of Children and their protection against death, neglect, degradation and exploitation.

But in the streets of the world, homeless children continued to face more abuse and agony, and to stay alive.

Heaven and earth must have cried together.

TODAY'S CHILD ... TOMORROW'S CORPSE

Kenya Times
Kenya

Sunday Nation
Kenya

SUNDAY NATION
Nairobi, Sunday, September 30, 1990

Children's right to their rights

As the world summit on the rights of children comes to a close in New York today, the salient issue is, and will remain so, that the world's children are increasingly and abominably sexually and physically abused, starved, stunted and put in harms way all too often.

Parents, adults, the community in which they live, their governments and the world at large, are guilty of the denial of children of their rights and the violation of them. Children, innocent and helpless, have their rights, but the world behaves as if they do not.

Indeed, if only somebody remembered that children have rights, and moved to make sure that they enjoyed these rights, then the world would be a better place to live in.

When making sure that children enjoy their rights, is what we mean. A child, under the United Nations convention on the rights of children, has a right to shelter and we do not forget to extend the same to their illiterate children are well sheltered and forget all about the rest of the citizens.

Children have a right to education and health and we think that governments giving children education and health would make sure that their and sick is ridiculous.

Children have a right to freedom of expression, freedom of thought, conscience and religion, freedom of association and the right to protection from interference with privacy. In this regard, if governments honoured the UN Convention on the rights of the children, they would not need to be reminded of human rights by Amnesty International and the United Nations itself.

We are advancing two points here, that the basis for governments to observe human rights, is to observe the UN Convention on the rights of the children. We are saying that once children are aware of their rights and we make it possible for them to enjoy these rights, the need for the observance of human rights will already be part and parcel of the peoples of the world.

We are advancing the view that governments have the onus of enforcing the strict observance of the rights of children either through legislation or the enactment of development policies and strategies that will ensure that these rights are realised.

It is not enough and it is hypocritical of governments to be signatories to UN conventions which they do not observe or make it possible for their people to enjoy them. It is not enough for governments to preach about the rights of children which they do not make sure are observed precisely because lip service will not do.

Of course, the moral pin pricks which are supposed to twiddle one when they go wrong should be given the international community sleepless nights already because it only adopted this convention on the rights of children last November.

Prior to that it was as if children did not have any rights at all. But, though the convention is not that old, it behoves the international community to see to it that it is enforced and, of course, respective governments must take this very seriously.

World leaders must leave New York with a strong resolve to see their respective governments take measures which will ensure that children will enjoy their rights. That way mankind can be happy that there is a UN convention on the rights of children and that there was such a meeting about the rights of children in New York.

Most important, however, is the fact children have a right to their rights and the observance of children's rights is observance of human rights. That is the way it should be.

Sunday Standard
Kenya

SUNDAY STANDARD

Unique summit for children's protection

ABOUT seventy world leaders are this weekend expected to agree on an ambitious plan of action aimed at saving the lives of five million children annually. The special United Nations summit is being held in New York. The summit offers an historic opportunity for world leaders to improve the lot of millions of young people. On focus are issues like disease, education, nutrition, shelter, child labour, drugs, prostitution and abandonment, all central in the welfare or lack of it of children.

This weekend's summit is the culmination of ten years of discussions on the rights of the child. It is unfortunate that the summit is being held when the international attention is focused on the crisis in the Gulf following last month's invasion and consequent annexation of Kuwait by neighbouring Iraq. There is obvious temptation for the gathered leaders to take the opportunity to divert their attention on the issue of the moment to the Gulf crisis. We, however, hope that the leaders will by the time the session ends today, have given the problem of the children the attention it so much deserves. Global crises should not be allowed to sap the political energy so much needed to tackle the problem of the child.

Children are all over the world victims of crises, be they political, economic or social. Millions of them in the Third World are disadvantaged compared to those in the richer countries. They live in the bonded labour, they are driven into prostitution, they are abandoned and abused both sexually and physically. All this abuse is not necessarily from strangers. It is quite often occasioned by the people supposed to give them maximum protection. And all this suffering by children is despite the fact that most countries, Kenya included, have legislations that seemingly provide protection to these junior citizens.

The convening of the current session at the UN headquarters is as a result of the realisation of the fact that children have needs and human rights which extend beyond basic concepts of protection. It is also as a result of the realisation that about 100 million children in poor countries live in the streets with no access to basic education; that 155 million of them under five years of age live in absolute poverty and that 14 million will have died by the end of this year from common illnesses. Such statistics mean little to common man who often takes the suffering of the child next door as quite ordinary.

The public should be made to realise that it has a duty to protect the child from abusive parents. This by implication makes the community at large the custodian and therefore responsible for children's welfare. Most Kenyans may not see why there should be so much noise about the protection of the child. Traditionally, a child was given protection by the community. He could not go hungry or sleep in the bush just because his parents could not afford to take care of him. Things have, however, changed for one does not need to look far to see starving children searching garbage bins for food, or semi naked children who have no homes to go to begging in the streets.

The condition of a country's children is very much a reflection of how that country perceives its future. If it is just and compassionate it has a basis on which to build the future. If it does not care, it is a reflection of its lack of foresight. The task of protecting and taking care of the child's basic needs should not be too much if every individual took it upon himself to extend a compassionate hand. It should not be hard if grown-ups stopped seeing in the child somebody to exploit. In other words, this care should start right from the individual to the nation at large.

We should, as a community, make sure that children are educated, are sheltered, do not go hungry, that know their cultural and religious obligations, and are legally protected against exploitation of whatever nature.

Those meeting in New York will have done the world's children a lot of good if they set a timetable to ensure that by the year 2000, malnutrition, common children's diseases, basic education, etc, will have been achieved. Unfortunately, there is a lot of talk and good intentions in international gatherings such as the one in New York. What should matter is the political will to commit what is resolved into action. This is all we are asking of our political leaders.

Madagascar Tribune
Madagascar

madagascar
TRIBUNE

NEW YORK

Sommet de l'enfance

L'Essor
Mali

QUOTIDIEN

L'ESSOR

DA YORA BE BEDIE

Organe de l'Union Democratique du Peuple Malien

Journées de réflexion sur la contribution des médias à la survie et à la protection de l'enfance

Nos enfants sont notre avenir

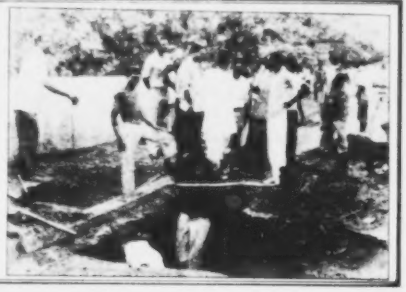
L'invité du jour : a reçu le Ministre de l'Emploi et de la Fonction Publique

"Aucun developpement n'est possible sans une politique saine de l'emploi"

A DECLARE Mme DIALLO LALLA SY

Pont de Bamako

Les usagers ont été mis à pied



Après le premier sommet de l'Enfance

Tout reste à faire

NEW YORK (NATIONS UNIES) (AFP/ANTA) — «Tout commence», a lancé le président du Mexique, Carlos Salinas de Gortari, en ouvrant dimanche soir à New York le premier et historique sommet mondial de l'enfance.

Pour mettre en œuvre leurs décisions, les 71 chefs d'Etat et de gouvernement et non que les 69 observateurs venant des 160 pays membres des Nations Unies, ont entamé du pain sur la planche tant le programme qu'ils viennent de définir et adopter par consensus est ambitieux.

En partant du constat que 40.000 enfants meurent chaque jour et 600 mères chaque [illegible] la communauté internationale s'engage à réduire [illegible] d'ici l'an 2000 le taux de mortalité des enfants de moins de cinq ans et se fixe des objectifs analogues dans le domaine de la malnutrition, de l'analphabétisme et de la mortalité maternelle.

Toutefois, le plan ne mentionne aucun coût de [illegible] ensemble de ces objectifs, bien que l'UNICEF chiffre cependant à 5 milliards de dollars par an pendant dix ans. De [illegible] idées ont été avancées dont une redéfinition des priorités des politiques nationales et de celles concernant l'aide au développement.

C'est ainsi que des chefs d'Etat de pays africains, comme M. Abdou Diouf du Sénégal, ont de nouveau insisté sur leurs demandes formulées dans d'autres instances d'annuler tout ou partie de la dette africaine et d'affecter les sommes ainsi dégagées au seul financement de programmes en faveur de l'enfance.

«Les enfants d'Afrique sont parmi les plus vulnérables du monde», a expliqué pour sa part le président de l'Ouganda, M. Yoweri Museveni, et président en exercice de l'OUA.

Les 7 principaux objectifs du plan d'action

NEW YORK (NATIONS UNIES) (AFP/ANTA) — Le plan d'action adopté dimanche par le Sommet Mondial de l'Enfance énumère sept objectifs principaux afin d'assurer d'ici l'an 2000 «la survie, la protection et le développement de l'enfant»:

a) — Réduire d'un tiers le taux de mortalité des enfants de moins de 5 ans enregistré en 1990 ou le ramener au niveau de 70 pour 1.000 naissances vivantes (en choisissant le résultat le plus important).

b) — Réduire de moitié le taux de mortalité maternelle enregistré en 1990.

c) — Assurer de moins [illegible] pour l'ensemble, [illegible] en 1995 le malnutrition grave ou modérée [illegible] enfants de moins de 5 ans.

d) — Assurer à tous l'alimentation en eau potable et [illegible] d'assainissement des [illegible].

e) — Universaliser l'éducation de base et faire en sorte qu'au moins 80 % des enfants en âge de fréquenter l'école primaire achèvent le cycle d'enseignement primaire.

f) — Réduire le taux d'analphabétisme chez les adultes (le groupe d'âge devant être déterminé par chaque pays) à la moitié de ce qu'il était en 1990, l'accent étant mis sur l'alphabétisation des femmes.

g) — Protéger les enfants dans des circonstances particulièrement difficiles, en particulier dans les situations de conflit armé.

Midi Madagascar
Madagascar

SUPPLEMENT MENSUEL
CESIRI N° 41

CESIRI

Edité par l'Union Nationale des Femmes du Mali

Assumer toutes nos responsabilités au sein de la famille

Cesiri
Mali

Notícias
Moçambique

PAZ CONSTITUI MELHOR PROTECÇÃO DA CRIANÇA

– Presidente Joaquim Chissano ao receber grupo de crianças que o foram saudar pela sua participação na cimeira de Nova Iorque

O Presidente da República Joaquim Chissano reafirmou ontem que a melhor protecção para a criança moçambicana passa necessariamente pelo restabelecimento da paz no nosso país e a consequente normalização da vida de todos os moçambicanos, numa alusão implícita à guerra de desestabilização cujas principais vítimas têm sido as nossas crianças. O Chefe do Estado fez esta afirmação durante um encontro com o grupo de crianças da cidade capital que em representação da criança moçambicana se deslocou ao Gabinete da Presidência para saudar o mais alto dirigente da Nação pela sua recente participação na cimeira mundial sobre o futuro da criança, realizada no último fim-de-semana, na sede das Nações Unidas, em Nova Iorque.

A este encontro estiveram presentes, para além da esposa do Chefe do Estado, Marcelina Chissano, dirigentes do Partido, do Governo, [illegible] mente por donativos que vêm de fora. Teremos que desenvolver as nossas próprias acções internas, primeiro para a sobrevivência das crianças, segundo [illegible]

O Presidente discursa e com ele [illegible] as crianças que o foram felicitar pela participação [illegible] cimeira mundial de Nova Iorque, dedicada à causa da criança

CHISSANO EXPÕE SITUAÇÃO DA CRIANÇA MOÇAMBICANA

• Chefe do Estado termina visita a Nova Iorque

PRESIDENTE DA REPÚBLICA DISCURSA HOJE NA SEDE DA ONU

• Chefe do Estado chegou ontem a Nova Iorque e participará amanhã na cimeira mundial sobre o futuro da criança

Notícias
Moçambique

The Windhoek Observer
Namibia

FIGHTING FOR CHILDRENS' RIGHTS

A special message for children

All work and no play, makes ...

Children sold on the streets

Aids and the unborn baby

Times

Supplement on children in this edition

"Victims of freedom"

Kaptein in last stand

President in Lubango

Road to the top

Show Offer!

nictus

REX

Join the world

The Times of Namibia
Namibia

The world looks at its children

Excerpts from the National Paper on 'The Children of Namibia'

• The innocent Namibian children have been most susceptible to the hardships of hunger and disease imposed by colonial neglect. They have been the most adversely affected by the war, apartheid and poverty. Sadly, our children have for so long been regarded as virtually non-entities in the country of their birth.

• Many children grow up in an environment of alcohol abuse and as a result start drinking at a tender age. Alcoholism is a major problem in a society where people have been alienated for so long. Thus, much money is spent on the purchase of alcohol instead of on desperately needed food for children.

• Environmental degradation is killing children because of the fact that children and unborn foetuses are more vulnerable to environmental hazards in view of their different breathing patterns, nutritional needs, body chemistry and behaviour. Namibia has an under-five mortality rate of 176 out of every 1 000 children.

A CHILD'S-eye view of Namibia is hopefully becoming brighter, but 15 children like this one will die in the course of today.

SCHOOL HOSTEL facilities Ojiinone-style: this young pupil is nevertheless optimistic about his future in Namibia.

• Children born and orphaned in exile are currently in the care of the RRR Committee of the CCN. The committee has established schools for them but between 500 and 1 000 have no school place as yet. A total of 2 400 children between the ages of 13 and 17 remained in Zambia after independence for schooling purposes. These are also due for repatriation at the end of this year and will have to be incorporated into the national education system.

• Child abuse is a visible feature of our society, which reflects the frustration of many families who barely make a living. Abused children, especially in the rural areas, leave their homes to roam the streets to avoid such cruelty. Unofficial figures show that about 150 children live permanently on the streets of Windhoek. Such children, because they are hungry and neglected, commit petty crimes in order to survive.

• The result of past racist policies was a national educational disaster - less schools for black children, poor educational material, overcrowded classes, lower teacher/pupil ratios, few trained and qualified teachers, lower salaries for black teachers and, above all, a degrading educational system for the black child. For example, in 1977 there were only 14 senior secondary schools for the black population of over 90 per cent as compared to 92 schools for the 7,5 per cent white population.

Kids first says New York-bound Nujoma

NO child should die from a preventable disease, no child should be ruined with illiteracy or untimely unemployment and no child should go to bed hungry and cold. With these words, President Sam Nujoma introduced the government's National Paper on the 'Children of Namibia', released yesterday.

He said all governments should strive for a 95 per cent immunisation rate, that primary education should be compulsory and that everything possible should be done to provide sufficient food and adequate shelter for all.

"It is not enough to put a signature to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child," said the President. "Governments, parents and indeed all responsible and influential adults are called upon to seriously consider the plight of our children as a matter of utmost priority."

A new era had dawned in Africa, said Nujoma, and the new political independence had demanded a new consciousness.

No longer could Africans maintain the traditional view that children should be seen and not heard, he went on. Such ideas have "perpetuated neglect of our children's needs, thereby gravely and irreparably damaging society in its entirety".

The rights of children, as inheritors and custodians of the future, had to be scrupulously and strictly observed to avoid a future doomed to dependency and crisis.

"We must all work together towards creating an atmosphere of peace, mutual trust and understanding, with a clear vision of reaching our ultimate goal - that of social justice for all our people, but especially for all our children," he concluded.

FRIENDS play outside the Windhoek State Hospital. All three said they wanted to be doctors or BMX champions.

Stopping the clock on child mortality

ON 30 September 1990, as on every other day of the year, 15 Namibian children will die from diseases and accidents which could have been prevented. Worldwide, the child death toll will be 20 000, 100 000 will become malnourished, 115 000 will drop out of primary school and countless millions will face another day of exploitation and abuse.

On the same day more than 70 Heads of State, including President Sam Nujoma, will meet at the United Nations in New York to decide what to do about it.

The occasion is the World Summit for Children, a two-day meeting where for the first time global attention will focus on the survival, development and protection of children. Called initially by six Heads of State from Canada, Egypt, Mali, Mexico, Pakistan and Sweden, the summit intends to stimulate new initiatives in all countries and among the international community, to address those issues which most critically affect children for the decades ahead. A further aim is to accelerate international ratification and implementation of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child.

LAGOS HORIZON

Children Get Second Global Focus

For the second time in 11 years, global attention will again focus on the world's children as the United Nations summit on children opens this week in New York, United States of America (USA) with Nigeria participating.

In 1979, a great enthusiasm was generated internationally when, for the first time, the United Nations launched the International Year of the Child (IYC). Following that UN initiative, an unprecedented level of interest emerged concerning the survival, development and protection of children throughout the world.

Unfortunately, 11 years after IYC, the problems facing the world's children, especially in the developing countries, are still as real as they were over a decade ago. They are the problems of food, water, health, housing and education.

The single biggest enemy of the child in most of the developing world is malnutrition resulting from lack of the right food in the right quantities. According to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), "At any given moment an estimated 10 million of the world's young children are in the grip of severe protein-energy malnutrition and a further 200 million are inadequately fed. The result is that half of the 15 million under fives who die every year in the developing world are killed by malnutrition or by diseases which malnutrition makes worse."

For children to survive and develop both mentally and physically, they need above all well-prepared and nutritious foods right from the time breast-feeding is withdrawn to their adult lives. An under-fed boy or girl, according to experts, does not have the same energy to learn, to explore, to play "and to demand and receive the stimulation which is increasingly recognized as being crucial to the development of the child and the fulfillment of his or her potential."

Water is essential for life and the regular supply of pipe-borne water for health and sanitation has become inevitable, as clean water can give life and protect health, polluted water can ruin it.

Water has been described as "nature's own disinfectant." Without it, dirt accumulates in the home and its premises, germs breed, while flies spread diarrhea which, when linked with malnutrition, are the single most common specific source of sickness and death among children in the world today.

The task of improving the health of the children the world over should be the task of prevention rather than cure. But most of the developing countries often spend more money on curative than preventive medicine.

According to Dr. David Morley of the Institute of Child Health in London: "Three-quarters of the deaths in the developing world are due to conditions that can be prevented at low cost, but three-quarters of the medical budget is spent on curative services, many of them provided at high cost."

LAGOS HORIZON

Children get second global focus

Lagos Horizon
Nigeria

DAILY Champion

For a better society

Feeding the Nigerian child

More nutrition, please

Daily Champion
Nigeria

DAILY TIMES

A summit to save defenceless children

Daily Times
Nigeria

Vital lessons about the necessity to live in houses under healthy and sanitary conditions were learnt at the UN Conference on Human Settlements in Vancouver, Canada, in 1976 when nations came together to share experiences and knowledge in coping with the relevant problems.

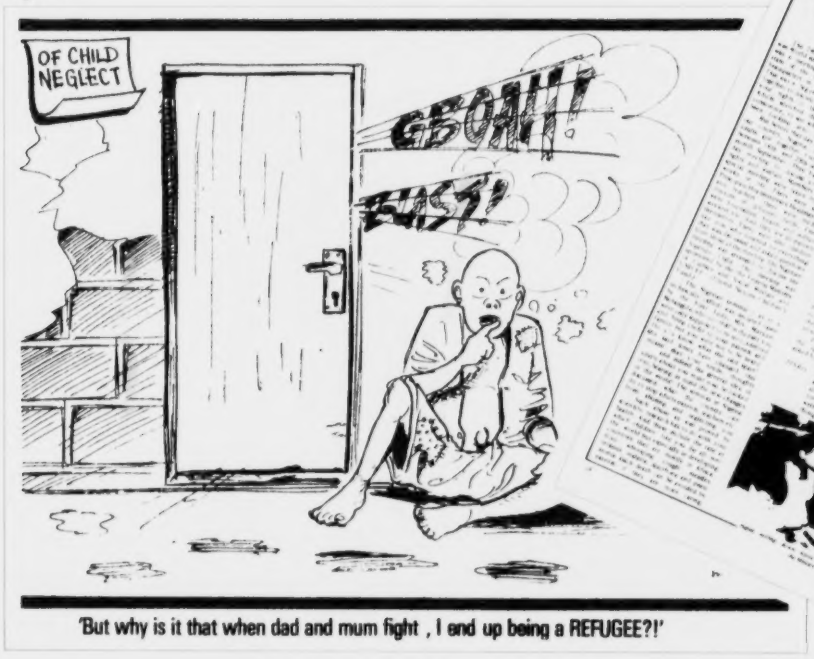
It was agreed upon, for instance, that "where the mother's environment (including housing and shelter) is one of poverty, nutritional and health factors take on great significance in determining growth and development prior to and following the birth of the child. A deteriorating environment, therefore, means harder work for women, less food and care for children and increased health hazards for both."

The education of children should be given priority by all nations. Like health, education is fundamental to the children's future and their societies. While the yearly enrollment of infants in schools has been running close to 100 percent in the industrialised countries, only few developing nations can boast of 50 percent enrollment of their children in one particular year.

This is so because most Third World countries cannot finance free education even at the primary school level.

Consequently, illiteracy continues to grow . . .

Daily Times
Nigeria



Pinko
Nigeria

Le Soleil
Senegal

le soleil

El Hadji Abdoul Aziz Sy à l'occasion du Maouloud

PAS DE PROGRES SANS UNION DES CŒURS

Abdou Diouf de retour de New-York

«MON PLUS BEAU SOMMET»

REUNIFICATION EFFECTIVE

Nous voulons une Allemagne européenne

Restaurer la confiance en l'Ecole sénégalaise

Le Soleil
Senegal

LES ENJEUX DU SOMMET MONDIAL POUR LES ENFANTS

LES AMBIGUITES

LE SAVIEZ-VOUS ?

QUESTION DE PRIORITES ET DE VOLONTE

LA CONVENTION RELATIVE AUX DROITS DE L'ENFANT

Page 15

Les Enfants Martyrs
Senegal

LES ENFANTS MARTYRS

REVUE D'INFORMATION, DE FORMATION ET DE DEFENSE DES ENFANTS

Les enjeux du Sommet Mondial pour les enfants

Mariage précoce mal culturel ?

Daily Mail
Sierra Leone

"KLM
"Sierra Leone flies KLM now twice weekly - Mondays and Thursdays."
Contact your travel agent or KLM Freetown tel: 25254
The Reliable Airline KLM

Low tide for bwellers'-page 2

DAILY Mail

FREETOWN TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 1990 PRICE: Le 30

Paris
by DC10 jumbo jet
For your comfort,
1 flight a week with UTA

Inside

Lady Hannah Momoh on her birthday

First Lady celebrates birthday in grand style -P3

Eric James in rescue operation - Cheaper bread-P3

BASIC EDUCATION A RIGHT FOR ALL CHILDREN - MOMOH

BY ADOLPHUS BEOKLEY

PRESIDENT Momoh has said that basic education must be considered a right and not a priviledge for the children so as to enable them live a better life in the future.

He also disclosed that a National Council for Basic Education has been set up and urged the participation of all Ministries, NGO'S and other bodies to be actively involved in the process of ensuring basic education for all children.

The President was delivering the closing remarks at the 2-day summit for children organised by the National Council for Children at the Miatta Conference Centre.

Dr. Momoh who commended the resolutions adopted at the end of the Summit noted that it demonstra-

ted hard work on the part of the delegates

He said that the resolutions pin-pointed all what is expected of the government to do to enhance the welfare of the children and promised to present these resolutions at the worldwide summit for

Contd. on Back Page

STOP PRESS

Sa-Leoneans trapped in Kuwait: Govt issues tough statement see next issue

MAIL VIEW

After Doe what next?

THE position of the ECOWAS peace keeping force in liberia, ECOMOG, has become increasingly complicated with the violently unfolding scenario in that war torn and much bloodied neighbouring country. The death of President Samuel Doe following last Sunday's attack by Prince Johnson's rebels has signalled the intensification of fighting between the forces of Prince Johnson and the

Contd. on Page 2

LIBERIANS DYING OF STARVATION

BY MAIL REPORTERS

AS the 9-month old Liberian civil war reaches a critical stage after the death of President Samuel K. Doe, latest reports from the beleaguered Capital, Monrovia, State that Liberians are dying of starvation.

Daily Mail man Aliesius Koroma who was in the war torn Liberia recently said that people mostly children and babies are dying daily of hunger.

He said that most Liberians now live on leaves - cassava and potato - which they manage to boil with salty water to make soul and mini rest.

Some of the unlucky ones, he said, have been caught in the cross fire between the rebel lines as they venture out in search of food and are mistaken as opposing factions.

At the Sierra Leone - Liberia border, our Correspondent described their situation as pathetic as most of the children suffer from acute malnutrition and scattered cases of cholera.

Last week a top official of the ECOWAS Peace Keeping Force, ECOMOG told the BBC that despite appeals have been

Contd. on Back Page

A four year old Liberian child almost dying of starvation caught by Mailman Aliesius Koroma at Bojiela village on the Sierra Leone - Liberia border. He is the only child of Mr and Mrs Teh who were killed in the crossfire in Liberia recently.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev

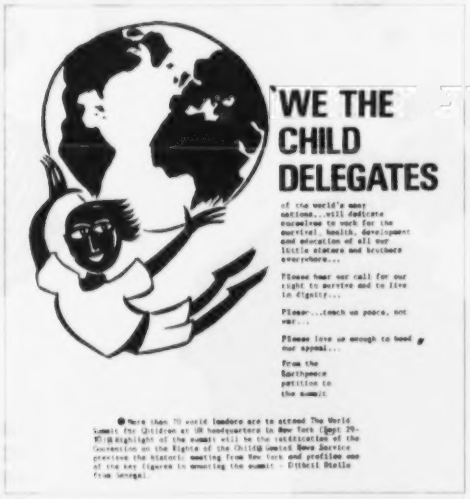
Threat to Soviet Economic reforms see page 4

Houphouet Boigny's dream realised see Page 5

That mystery blaze at 'big Police' Centre Spread

Banks no longer Jittery see page 9

Akar advises SWASL; Chico now with Stars see page 11



'WE THE CHILD DELEGATES

of the world's many nations...will dedicate ourselves to work for the survival, health, development and education of all our little sisters and brothers everywhere...

Please hear our call for our right to survive and to live in dignity...

Please...teach us peace, not war...

Please love us enough to heed our appeal...

From the Earthpeace petition to the summit

● More than 71 world leaders are to attend The World Summit for Children at UN headquarters in New York (Sept 29-30).A highlight of the summit will be the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.● United News Service previews the historic meeting from New York and profiles one of the key figures in attending the summit - Ibbett Diallo from Senegal.

Above and right: *Weekend Observer*
Swaziland

Gulf crisis diverts political energy from children

By Elvi Rhomberg

UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK — Concern for children in the dizzying future of the world's first East-West-North-South summit-More than 70 presidents, kings, and prime ministers will participate in The World Summit for Children at U.N. headquarters in New York next week - the largest gathering of heads of state in history.

President George Bush of the United States, President Francois Mitterrand of France, and Soviet Prime Minister Mikhail Gorbachev will be there.

The purpose of the unprecedented parley is to focus attention on the problems affecting

Comment

For the good of children

Daily News
Tanzania

'Children need improved lot'

By *Daily News* Reporter

THE international community was yesterday urged to strive at achieving targets set by the United Nations to reduce misery and deaths of millions of the world's children at the end of this century.

Last September, 71 heads of state and government meeting at the UN headquarters in New York, vowed to reduce the 1990 levels of infant deaths in the world by a third by the Year 2000.

The leaders, including President Ali Hassan Mwinyi, also pledged to work for reduction of the number of women who die during childbirth or pregnancy by a half within the next 10 years.

Other pledges included guaranteeing that by the end of the century all children will have access to clean water, basic education, child malnutrition to be cut by half, eradication of polio, providing access to prenatal care for all women and family planning advice for all couples.

The report says that the pledges have already been endorsed by over 150 governments. However it says that "declarations by political leaders are not enough. For the Year 2000 goals must become the goals for the societies as a whole".

The UNICEF's 128-page report says that means are now available to improve millions of children from ill-health, poor growth due to malnutrition and early deaths. But to attain these goals the world should make it say's knowledge and technologies available to all.

Such technologies include vaccines, oral rehydration salts, and breast-feeding, vitamin A supplements and family planning services.

The 1991 State of the World's Children report poses a challenge to the international community's conscience and calls for a worldwide effort to end these child deaths and malnutrition before the next 10 years. The declaration by world leaders on the survival, protection and development of children annexed to the report describes children as "the most vulnerable and dependent".

Adding that their time should be one of joy and peace - of playing, learning and growing. But for many children, realities of childhood are altogether different. Each day, millions children around the world are exposed to dangers that hamper their growth and development. They suffer malnutrition as casualties of war and violence, as victims of neglect, cruelty and exploitation.

According to UNICEF each day 40,000 children die from malnutrition and disease including AIDS, lack of clean water and inadequate sanitation.

The 1991 State of the World's Children report argues that "only the emergence of a new ethic can sustain the effort to make a better world for our children in the decade ahead. The growing mood and body politic which underlies recent talks fail to consolidate, prides reserves of arms the economy returns to growth".

The report, quotes the UNICEF's executive director, Mr James Grant, as saying at a conference on the last Summit on World Summit for Children.

that "a great promise has been made to the children of the world. Whether the promise will be kept is a question which will be answered not by the declarations of the days, but the deeds of the decade".

UN adopts declaration on children

The Star
Uganda

Parents failing to educate children to be punished

Munno
Uganda

HEALTH

Children World Summit gives hope

EACH day in the developing countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America, 40,000 children under the age of five die from disease, malnutrition and neglect. Many of these deaths – which total about 15 million annually – could be prevented, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO).

WHO believes that millions of women and children in the developing world could be saved each year simply by applying already existing knowledge about the essential link between the health of a child and its mother. A healthy, well-nourished and well-informed mother is more likely to bear, rear and nurture a healthy infant, WHO says.

The World Summit for Children provided an extraordinary opportunity and an extraordinary responsibility, said Dr Hiroshi Nakajima, Director-General of the World Health Organisation. "Never before have we had such an opportunity to acquaint world leaders with what can be done for mothers and children if we apply what we know now, and invest in new knowledge through research. Yet it is also our responsibility as technical experts to make clear that the actions and investments considered by the Summit are essential to the future of our planet.

In order to appreciate the challenge of the Summit, it is necessary to take stock of the health situation of children around the world.

● Each year some 50 million people die from disease and other causes. Of the total deaths, about 30 percent are children under the age of five. Two-thirds of these are children who die before their first birthday. Ninety seven percent of all infant deaths are in the developing world, where infant mortality rates are on average about five times as high as in the developed regions. Overall in the developing world, one child in 12 dies before reaching the age of one, and one in eight dies before reaching the age of five.

● Of the 40,000 infants and children who die each day, about one fourth are deaths during the first week after birth and relate directly to the health and nutrition of women, and the quality of care that women receive during pregnancy and delivery. A significant proportion of the remaining infants who die have low birth weight (or were pre-term births) as an important contributory factor.

11,000 such day die as a result.

● Each year, over 500,000 women die as a result of pregnancy or childbirth, nearly all in the developing world. For the developing world as a whole nearly one in every 200 pregnancies results in the death of the mother. In the absence of family planning and skills and knowledge in managing pregnancy and conducting a delivery, that figure rises to as high as one in 13. An African woman may have a life time risk as high as one chance in 15 of dying as a result of pregnancy or childbirth, a South Asian woman may have as high as one chance in 18 of dying.

● WHO estimates that during its first decade, the epidemic of HIV/AIDS has caused an estimated 500,000 cases of AIDS in women and children, most of which have, thus far, been unrecognised. During the 1990s, WHO estimates that the pandemic will kill an additional 5 million women and children throughout the world. In addition, more than 10 million uninfected children will be orphaned, because their HIV-infected mothers and fathers will have died from AIDS.

Yet, there is cause for hope. Immunisation coverage for children in the developing countries reaching their first birthday has climbed from less than 5 percent in 1974 to over 70 percent today, thus contributing significantly to the decline in infant mortality, oral rehydration therapy exists for preventing dehydration and malnutrition resulting from diarrhoeal diseases, thus saving many of the 60 million children who might otherwise die in the next decade, acute respiratory infections – especially pneumonia can be cured by standard, inexpensive antibiotic treatment, aided by an attack on the root causes of poverty, ignorance and ill health, urban water supply and sanitation is improving, with water supply coverage rising in rural areas from 30 percent to almost 50 percent in the past 10 years, coverage of deliveries by trained attendants has increased.

● Breast feeding – children who are exclusively breast fed for the first four to six months of their lives have a lower risk of dying from diarrhoea and respiratory disease than infants fed on breast-milk substitutes or with mixed feedings of breast milk and other liquids or semi-solids.

WHO Features.

Child immunisation the only safer way.

New Vision
Uganda

Ekirowoozo MUNNO

LWAMUKAAGA 29 SEPTEMBER, 1991

Omulanga gw'abaana gusaanidde okulowoozebwako ennyo

ESIGADDE olunaku lumu okuluyimgana okutegekebwa mu kibuga New York ekya America nga kuliwetta ku mikwano g'olwaana mu asi yonna lufondi bu okulwanja. Mu lukuungana olwo abakiikirizibwa b'amawanga nga mwe muli ne President Museveni owa Uganda, bajja kukola ekyolayo okuwenyigirawo nga gwe mulundi ogusookeweza dolola obubi bwa bulamu bw'abaana bw'olubeera.

Ku Sunday ewedde, okuyisa ekivvulu nga kukolebwa obwana n'abakumirwa okubamu bwabwe n'amboore zaabwe era abamalidde okubba nti bakwendirwa. Ivvulu eddibwa ne timuba mu City Square mu Kampala. Mu lukuungana olwokubaddeewo akawungeezo ne'okukumba okwo, obwana bwakubidde abakulembeze ne bbanda abakwatibwako okutunula entabo n'ambwana endala enkii omulanga okubikomya.

Abaana era nga kye kituddu dduda, bagamba nti endala ne zibeerawo okutuuka ku kubonaabona okutagambika okubeerawo n'okuba. Mu ntalo ezo n'abakolebero abaka mufiiramu abandibi baabwe era ng'okufa okwo kutegeeza bo baana kutuuka ku bbibu obtegeerekka.

Ku lukda ne'ontalo, okusiirubira ku binabiddwako nga biri ne mu Uganda, zireetebwa okuwanga bakulembeera mu kiseera nga bakaywanira obuyinza. Entalo ez'engeri ayo zirabiddwa nnyingi mu gawanga lino era nga n'olukuddamu be baana okutuuka okutondebwa ku makubo eso n'abatalondebwa ne bassaanirawo dduda be bangi.

Mu mbeera ayo olanti okitaalibadde kituufu, bwtuuka n'okuyingirizibwa mu kuwana.

N'awaiala mu mawanga agatali gamu gali bwe gutyo. Embeera ayo teyinza kuddirizibwa kugenda mu maaso nga mw mawanga mulimu abakulembeze n'abantu ab'amyayo aminengi era nga ye nsonga lwaki okukuungaana lw'amu New York lutegekebwa awamanga gaacoole okukola ekiragano. Convention n'abaana. Ekiragano ekyo kijja kutegeeza ebintu bingi kyokka ng'okukulembera kwe kuba nti okuva ekiragano ekyo kwe kinaatandiko y'eija okube entandikwa y'okununula abaana.

Mu kununula abaana, ffenna tulina okwegatta awamu mu kaweefube oyo era mu ngeri eyo tuwagira ne ssekuwagira yonna okukiko okutuuka mu New York.

The Herald
Zimbabwe

THIS woman could not believe her luck when from nowhere in the middle of the bush, a doctor turned up. Her relatives and neighbours had given up hope of her getting better and were singing hymns and praying for her to recover. A doctor with the *INR* team visiting soldiers at Negazi, Mozambique, attended to her, touched by the plight of the people. Above, on the right, Capt Charles Jinyemba injecting the woman, with Cpl Jimmy Nyagadze, his assistant, looking on. She was suffering from pneumonia. Picture: Tatenda Zvomuya

Summit looks at plight of children

MORE than 75 monarchs, presidents and prime ministers, including President Mugabe, are expected to meet tomorrow and Monday to map out and approve long-term solutions that will save the lives of millions of children a year.

The World Summit for Children is an unprecedented event. About half the world's top leaders are gathering simply to talk about children and their future.

The summit comes at the end of a 45-year cold war and a turbulent time that saw the break up of the great colonial empires and the political liberation of many countries. The United Nations Children's Fund, which has been a major force behind the calling of the summit, sees the moment as auspicious for a leap forward.

Poverty and ignorance

Unicef argues that the hundred of millions of children still living and dying in malnutrition, poverty and ignorance should have first claim on the extra resources which might become available in a more peaceful world.

President Mugabe has left Zimbabwe for North America, which includes a state visit to Canada and visits and discussions in the US, around the summit. He is expected in New York this morning. Zimbabwe has a reasonably good record with a massive shift of resources towards basic health and education since independence. This has led to one of the lowest child mortality death rates in Africa and one of the highest rates of schooling in the Third World.

But more needs to be done in Zimbabwe and all countries. Experts note that good intentions are simply not enough, and even reasonable sums of money aid, while helpful, are not the long term answer. Many children die because of the way the economies of countries and the world work. The cuts in social spending, in real terms, forced on many Third World countries in the last decade have hit the children.

The summit is expected to announce new strategies to reduce infant mortality, illiteracy and to make health care more available to mothers and children, among other goals.

One of the major purposes of the summit is to seek more signatures and ratifications of the convention on the rights of the child.

At least 43 nations have ratified the convention which came into effect last November. It required nations to guarantee the survival of children, their protection, development and the right to participate in planning their upbringing, as well as freedom of thought and conscience. Another 100 have signed it, signalling their intention to ratify it by bringing their laws into conformity with its provisions.

The statistics facing the leaders are horrifying. About 250 000 children a week, the equivalent of an Harare every month, die of easily preventable disease and malnutrition. Measles, whooping cough and tetanus kill 5 000 children a day; simple and cheap vaccines would save them.

Diarrhoeal dehydration kills another 7 000 children a day; a few cents worth of sodium and potassium salts would save them. Pneumonia kills 6 000 children a day; a few dollars of antibiotics would cure each of them.

For the first time in history, the backers of the summit want to see a world which does not accept that children should die in large numbers. They are looking for a new world order. — Diana Reuter AP, Herald Reporter

The Herald
Zimbabwe

JIAN KANG BA
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儿童幫助

世界儿童问题首脑会议 特刊

1990年9月29—30日
联合国 纽约

—你知道吗？世界儿童问题首脑会议要在今年的9月29—30日在美国纽约联合国总部召开！

—真的？

—那当然！全世界近100个国家的首脑要聚集在一起讨论我们的问题，这可是有史以来的第一次！

—太棒了，可是孩子们都有些什么问题呢？

—嗯，世界这么大，你知道吗？就在会议召开的两天中，全2800个孩子死于百日咳。8000个孩子死于麻疹，4300个孩子死于破伤风，22000个孩子死于腹泻。12000个孩子死于肺炎。

—这可怎么办？

—有很多办法来预防，实行计划免疫，口服补液疗法，用母乳喂养，改善营养条件，提供洁净的饮用水，搞好环境保护等等。

—有这么多办法！向全世界的儿童提供更好的教育，保护儿童的权利，希望未来的十年充满希望！

—我们做点什么呢？

—向老师吧！

Probably the largest number of articles on the Summit in Asia ran in the Japanese press. Certainly they reached the most people on the continent, considering the huge circulation of Japan s newspapers. There was a total of 161 articles, editorials and columns on the subject, about two thirds during the week of the event.

The Chinese press had numerous articles in both the Chinese and English-language press. The largest paper, *The People's Daily*, published, among other items, a copy of a poster developed by the UNICEF office in China.

Most newspapers in the subcontinent, which has the highest concentration of children, gave emphasis to editorials about the Summit and what it could achieve. In India, the press, both English and indigenous languages, ran news stories, features and editorials. A special television programme in Pakistan discussed children's issues and advocated the rights of the child. In the Bangladesh press much of the Summit coverage ran on the front pages. In Sri Lanka, one newspaper ran a special Summit section, incorporating advertising by firms and organizations dealing with children.

The Philippine press had front-page articles, editorials and cartoons in major dailies and later gave more space to the signing of the Summit declaration by President Aquino, who did not attend the Summit. The Summit video, "341", was aired by all five television networks. In Indonesia, the press and television networks started their significant coverage two weeks before the Summit.

SMH 1-10-90

50,000 infants to die as leaders meet on future

A child waits for food at a shanty town soup kitchen in Lima, Peru, left, while a boy searches a dump in Managua for scrap metal and plastic to sell. *Pictures by ASSOCIATED PRESS*

NEW YORK, Sunday: The leaders of 73 nations gather today in New York for the second day of the world's first summit convened to discuss the problems facing children.

Supporters of the event, billed as the world's largest gathering of government leaders, say that it will stimulate commitment and convey awareness of the plight of children. Critics of the meeting say it is a waste of money.

According to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), about 40,000 children die every day, mainly from preventable causes.

The summit is viewed sceptically by those who think the money spent on the gathering would be better spent on needy children. About $US6 million ($A7.5 million) reportedly will be spent on security arrangements alone.

Other expenses will include travel, accommodation in luxury hotels and transport for heads of government and their delegations.

During the two-day summit, more than 50,000 infants are expected to die, mainly of preventable diseases such as whooping cough, measles, tetanus, malaria, diarrhoea and pneumonia.

UNICEF officials say the meeting is not a fund-raising event, but will make leaders pay greater attention to the problems facing children.

By tomorrow, when the summit ends, the leaders are expected to have signed a declaration aimed at improving the condition of children during the next decade.

The declaration resolves to:

- Reduce child mortality below age five by one-third or to a level of 70 per 1,000 births, whichever is the greater reduction.
- Cut maternal mortality rates by half.
- Reduce malnutrition by half among children under five.
- Assure universal access to safe drinking water and septic systems.
- Give universal access to basic education and have at least 80 per cent of primary school children finish school.
- Cut adult illiteracy by half.
- Protect children in dangerous circumstances, especially in armed conflict.

A clause was added to the declaration at Kuwait's urging, denouncing the suffering of children due to "aggression, foreign occupation and annexation".

Another goal of the summit is to get more signatures on an international agreement guaranteeing basic human rights for children, called the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

US officials say they are not yet ready to support the treaty, though it has been ratified by 43 nations and endorsed by more than 100 others who plan to ratify it.

Conservatives in Congress have criticised the document, which went into effect this month, because it forbids the death penalty for people under 18 and does not define a foetus as a child and, thus, protected by the convention.

Summit organisers said that the World Bank president, Mr Barber Conable, had pledged an additional $US500 million ($A686 million) a year this decade for children's health and education.

More than a million children could be saved each year by the additional spending, they said.

Statistics cited by the summit's organisers show: 40 per cent of the world's children suffer from malnutrition; half the children in developing nations have no access to clean drinking water; and nearly 100 million children of primary school age are unable to attend school.

But the problems extend beyond the Third World. The New York-based National Centre for Children in Poverty notes that poor children in the US face greater risk of low birth weight and infant mortality than in many other industrialised nations. The centre also says American children face unacceptably high rates of prenatal drug exposure, pediatric AIDS, malnutrition, child abuse and neglect, and homelessness.

The Baltimore Sun, Reuter

A feast fit for a king

NEW YORK, Sunday: Heads of State and government attending the World Summit for Children at the United Nations dined on filet of sole, filet of veal and vanilla ice cream at flower-decked tables set up in the UN delegates' main lounge.

The menu last night consisted of filet of sole meunière with a crayfish garnish and a side of asparagus tips, filet of veal with mushroom essence and mushrooms, roast potatoes, glazed carrots and braised endives.

Pouilly fumé and Chateau Coufret wines were served with the meal and, for dessert, the dignitaries ate vanilla ice cream with chestnuts and chestnut sauce.

During the dinner, King Baudouin of Belgium said the world could not become resigned to the death of 40,000 children a day from hunger, malnutrition, disease, lack of drinking water and medical care or from drugs.

Reuter

The Sydney Morning Herald
Australia

PM slated for putting 'footy before kids'

PRIME Minister Bob Hawke was criticised by Opposition MPs yesterday for putting football before children after he refused to intervene to stop a world record crowd watching the Australian Rules grand final.

By LINDA MOTTRAM

Poverty

Sir Peter Ustinov at the National Press Club yesterday ... critical of the PM

The Daily Telegraph
Australia

দৈনিক বাংলা

ইরাককে কুয়েত

মধ্যপ্রাচ্যে যুদ্ধ

আজ নিউইয়র্কে শিশু সংক্রান্ত প্রথম বিশ্ব শীর্ষ সম্মেলন শুরু

নির্বাচনে

স্যাংশন প্রথ

না : বে

কাজাখস্তানে পরমাণু প্লান্টে বি

লক্ষাধিক লোকের স্বাস্থ্যহানির

হাজার লোকের প্রচণ্ড বিক্ষো

পরিবার নিয়ন্ত্রণ

বুলিয়ারার

হাজার লোক

শিশু-কিশোর সমাবেশ

ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের তিন প্রফেসর মনিরুজ্জামান তিনজন শিশুদের মধ্যে পারস্পরিক বন্ধুত্বের সম্পর্ক গড়ে তোলার আহবান জানিয়েছেন।

শনিবার সকালে কেন্দ্রীয় শহীদ মিনারে খেলাধর আয়োজিত এক শিশু কিশোর সমাবেশে তিনি এ আহবান জানান। জাতিসংঘের শিশু বিষয়ক শীর্ষ সম্মেলনকে স্বাগত জানিয়ে এ সমাবেশের আয়োজন করা হয়।

খেলা ঘরের চেয়ারম্যান প্রফেসর আলী আনসারের সভাপতিত্বে এই সমাবেশে বক্তৃতা করেন কানাডীয় হাইকমিশনার মিঃ ষ্টিফেন সিবেনস, ঢাকার ইউনিসেফ প্রতিনিধি মিঃ কোল পি, ওম ও খেলাঘরের সাধারণ সম্পাদক আবদুল আজিজ প্রমুখ।

পরে তিনি এর মনিরুজ্জামান তিনজন নেতৃত্বে শিশুদের একটি শোভাযাত্রা বের করা হয়। খবর বিজ্ঞপ্তির।

শিশু বিষয়ক জাতিসংঘের শীর্ষ সম্মেলন উপলক্ষে শনিবার সকালে কয়েক হাজার শিশু-কিশোর নগরীতে এক বর্ণাঢ্য শোভাযাত্রা বের করে -দৈনিক বাংলা

Dainik Bangla
Bangladesh

সাধারণ পরিষদে ভাষণ

মানবজাতির স্বার্থে বিশ্ব নিরাপত্তা ব্যবস্থা জোরদার করুন ঃ এরশাদ

Dainik Bangla
Bangladesh

中国妇女报

ZHONGGUO FUNÜ BAO

国内统一刊号 CN11—0003 第674期 1990年9月28日 星期五

我国部分大城市举行庆祝活动

迎接世界儿童问题首脑会议

China Women's Daily
China

健康报

JIAN KANG BAO

1990年 10月 4 星期四 农历庚午年 八月十六 第3278期

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儿童帮助儿童

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——你知道吗？世界儿童问题首脑会议是在今年的9月29—30日在美国纽约联合国总部召开！

——真的？

——那当然！全世界近100个国家的首脑聚集在一起讨论我们的问题，这可是历史上来的第一次！——大概了，是孩子们都有些什么问题呢？

——嗯，世界这么大，你知道吗？就在会议召开的两天中，全世界2800个孩子死于百日咳，8000个孩子死于麻疹，43000个孩子死于破伤风，22000个孩子死于腹泻，12000个孩子死于肺炎。——这可怎么办？

——有很多办法事预防，霍乱免疫，口服补液法，母乳喂养，改善营养条件，提供洁净的饮用水，我们双境保护等等。——有这么多办法！

——首脑们要重保护我们的权利，向全世界的心愿提供更好的希望。

——他们已经为我们美好的未来作了许诺，希望未来的十年充满希望！

——但我们真正能参与会议结果吗？咱们能做点什么呢？

——好！让我们拉起手来，唱着歌去向向老师吧！

National Health Daily
China

THE HINDU

FRIDAY OCTOBER 5, 1990

Rights of the child

IT THE ADOPTION one year by the U.N. Assembly of the global convention on the rights of the child marked the significant first step towards committing society to guaranteeing the young even the right minimum for their all round growth and development the 10 point plan of action that has emerged from the international summit last week-end represents the logical second step. Apart from reaffirming the global concern for children it has sought to concretise the objectives by setting goals for the 1990s in such critical areas as bringing [illegible] levels of education [illegible] would women have proved victims of [illegible] of governing countries. Taken by its drought and mortality, the [illegible] the African [illegible] as [illegible] ed from the [illegible] st areas. Such on the status ng of the in- [illegible] ects urgently as well as the [illegible] ts. By de- [illegible] tion merely a [illegible] Development stability and [illegible] ed indeed by [illegible] world meet [illegible] of children [illegible] of our world's [illegible] intent. This is [illegible]

But the catch lies in living up to that pronouncement which is the case with almost every other convention or declaration touching upon basic human values or rights. That only some 40 odd countries have so far ratified the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child is itself a measure of the seriousness the member nations attached to the question. The UNICEF's 1990 State of the World's Children Report pointed out that about half of the annual budget of the developing countries as a whole went towards the servicing of debt and the maintenance of military forces. It went on to say that a minuscule proportion of that expenditure was all it would need to make available low cost solutions to the various child health problems. Giving top priority to the child's cause should mean therefore that the nations (at the international level of suspending resources on wasteful and mutually destructive uses is done away with. As a matter of fact, in the dramatically changed context of superpower detente many [illegible] out as it is by significant progress in ending arms race and cold war one should expect considerably less money to go into security based sections on a global scale. All that the affluent countries would require to divert it more. A part of the resources so released for saving the millions of children the world over who are dying for want of safe water, nutrition and health care is political will. For the developing nations such a commitment should reflect in their planning effort and the apportionment of funds which in turn will primarily depend on its sensitivity to child related problems, including that of exploitation, two of which has to do with the poverty syndrome. Unless this sort of political action is forthcoming in a substantial measure, the inclusion of the summit being no more than an expensive public relations exercise is bound to acquire a lot of credence. For a country of India's size and federal structure, the political will has to percolate down to the State and district levels if whatever effort is made has to have any impact at all. That such a top-down flow has not taken place uniformly and in the right measure is one reason why even the small gains that have been made in terms of reduced infant mortality rates and improved child health status are not evenly distributed among different regions. What is more, the States where the problem is most acute are also the ones which are the worst culprits on this count.

The Hindu
India

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

New Delhi Sunday September 16 1990

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES SEPTEMBER 16, 1990

Focussing on children

The World Summit for Children is going to be held on September 29-30 1990, in New York at the United Nations Headquarters. Though the initiative for the Summit came from six countries namely, Egypt, Mali, Mexico, Pakistan, Sweden and Canada, more than 70 Heads of States/Governments have agreed to participate in the Summit. When a formal proposal was mooted by the six nations, it was endorsed by the UNICEF Executive Board. The United Nations pledged its support to the project also to host the Summit. The consensus for the Summit have been attained by the Secretary General of the UN. Secretariat support will be provided by UNICEF.

by ATAL BEHARI VAJPAYEE, Member, Preparatory Committee of the World Summit

THE Planning Committee of the World Summit for Children established two working groups, one to prepare a Draft Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s and the other for preparing a Draft Plan of Action for implementing the Declaration. India is represented on both the working groups. Our delegation has made several suggestions on both drafts, our main objective being to focus on measures, both national and international, that protect and preserve children.

The Draft Declaration and Plan of Action was given a final shape in the meeting of the Planning Committee on September 10, 1990, for consideration by the Summit.

The Draft Declaration states at the outset that "The children of the world are the most dependent and also most important members of society. Their time should be one of joy and play, of learning and growing. They have a right to grow in harmony and cooperation. Their lives should nurture as experiences are added to others. But for all too many children, the life they must live is of another nature."

The Draft Plan of Action clarifies that it is intended as 'guide and adds that 'The needs and problems of children vary from country to country, and indeed from community to community. Individual countries and groups of countries, as well as international, regional, national and local organisations may use this plan of action to develop their own specific programmes in line with their needs, capacity and mandates.'

The aim of the World Summit is to focus the attention of the international community on the present plight of children, particularly in developing countries, and to chalk out strategies for their survival, protection and development. The whole idea is to put the child and the mother on the agenda of the 1990s.

THE importance of protecting the life and health of the children needs no emphasis. Approximately 40,000 children under the age of five die every day in the developing countries often for lack of little more than a dollar's worth of health care, a regular supply of nutritious food or clean water and sanitation.

According to an estimate, if the present rate of child mortality continues in the course of 1990s almost 150 lakh children will die before they reach their fifth birthday. Even those who will survive will not normally develop in mind or body because of recurring illness and persistent malnutrition.

The question is whether the international community can do anything to ensure the survival of these children. The most tragic part of this human drama is that the measures of these unfortunate children could be protected if the governments of developing countries ensure adequate immunisation, oral rehydration and breast feeding.

Children die due to ailments like whooping cough, measles, diarrhoeal dehydration, tetanus and pneumonia. If concerted efforts are made these ailments could be overcome and children protected at an affordable cost. For curing these ailments there is also need to educate the parents about the precautionary measures which are very simple and do not involve intricate procedures.

However it is disturbing to find that a UNICEF publication about the World Summit for Children cautions that "The sad fact is that despite major gains in health care for children in the 1980s, brought about by technological and scientific advance and a rapid growth in communication capacity, malnutrition, ill health and poverty among children were advancing again in the decade ended. Social expenditures declined in the developing world as governments allocated half their total budgets to the military and to servicing debt.

It is estimated that the additional annual cost of programmes to prevent 500 such child deaths in the 1980s would reach approximately $ 2.5 billion by the end of the decade. In this connection it may be relevant to point out that in one year American consumers spend $ 17 billion to advertise cigarettes, in one month the 'soviet people spend that amount on vodka, every day the world spends $ 2.5 billion on military.

PERHAPS it could be said without fear of contradiction that basically the question is of priorities and the determination to mobilise all possible resources to get the job done.

The World Summit for Children is meeting at a time when there is a decline in cold war confrontation. This would hopefully mean that nations will be able to divert their attention from bunkers to making the world a better place to live in.

Such a peace dividend could provide a major impetus for efforts to save the lives of millions of children. Even if a small fraction of the amount being spent on armaments is spared for the cause of children, we could take a big step forward towards achieving our objectives.

As one of the countries in the world, our Government has a special responsibility in ensuring survival and development of children.

India adopted a National Policy for Children way back in August 1974. Under this National Policy a National Board for Children, which is chaired by the Prime Minister, was set up to plan for children, review the working and development including nutrition, immunisation, health services and pre-school education.

The most important member of our society

THE Government is also engaged in trying to provide clean drinking water for our people and a technology mission is implementing programs in this regard. The Government has adopted the UNICEF goal of universal immunisation for all by 1990 and in fact a technology mission was appointed specially for this purpose.

However, what has been done so far is not commensurate with our aim. Much more needs to be done. With a little more effort the goal of universal immunisation could be achieved. States like UP and Bihar are lagging behind and they have to launch a concerted drive to reach the national average above immunisation.

The link between the mother's health and child survival is now clearly visible. There is widespread medical evidence that family health, and particularly maternal and child welfare depend on the timing and spacing of births and size of family. In India as less than 40 per cent of maternal deaths occur between the age of 15 and 24 due to pregnancy or child-birth related causes and there is now a wealth of evidence to show that the child has much greater chances of survival where there is a mother, compared with those children who are deprived of a mother's care through her death or from other causes. Among the gains for children and development in the 1990s is the reduction of maternal mortality rate by half.

Thus the success of our family planning programme is very much relevant to reducing child mortality and contributing towards child welfare. I do not think our family planning programme has succeeded to the extent it should.

Assuring that more children live would in the long run also help to reduce population growth, experience shows that as parents become confident that their first offspring will survive, the birth rate declines.

THE UN General Assembly has adopted a comprehensive convention on the rights of the child. In addition to setting minimum standards for survival, health and education, the convention seeks to provide explicit protection for child against violence and exploitation, including physical or sexual abuse whether in the home, in the workplace or in the course of war or civil strife.

Ratification by at least 20 nations, which is needed to bring the Convention into force, has already been done. The World Summit can provide the impetus for the ratification by other nations of the Convention which essentially sets forth an ideal. As more and more nations ratify it and make a sincere attempt to implement its provisions, and as public opinion and the media show greater and greater concern for the observance of the Convention, we will be moving nearer the ideal.

The Government of India has not yet ratified the Convention, though it is considering the ratification of the Convention. I trust it will find it possible to ratify the Convention soon. In fact, the Convention on the rights of children is in conformity with the objectives laid down in India's National Policy for Children.

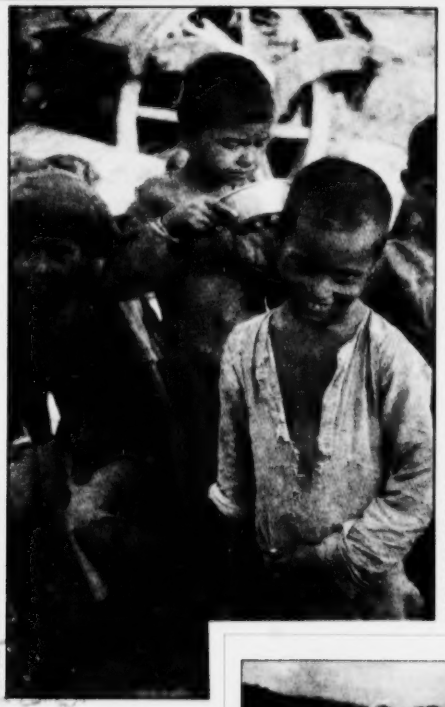
However, more important than a formal adoption of the Convention is the determination to implement its provisions by enacting them into national laws and enforcing the same. The World Summit should encourage nations and international agencies cooperating with one another to work more determinedly to improve the lot of the world's children.

The Hindustan Times
India

Tender lives on tenterhooks

More than 100 million children will die from disease and malnutrition during this decade. And all we need to stop these deaths is a mere $ 2.5 billion a year -- as much as the world spends on the military every day ! -- and some inclination.

R. Akhileshwari hopes that the recent global summit held in New York would help in bringing some light into the dark lives of the deprived children.



The needs of the children are not recognised nor are their rights respected. They figure, if at all, very low on the priorities of governments the world over ... Children's civil, social and economic rights need to be defined clearly to protect them from ruthless exploitation and to ensure their growth and development, both physical and mental.

Continued on Page 8

Above and right: *Deccan Herald*
India

Lives on tenterhooks

A

I

नवभारत टाइम्स

विश्व के नेता बाल-कल्याण को सर्वोच्च प्राथमिकता देंगे

Navbharat Times
India

71 Kepala Negara Hadiri KTT PBB

Mendesak, Perbaikan Nasib Anak

PBB, Reuter/AFP

Konferensi Tingkat Tinggi PBB mengenai masalah anak-anak sedunia, yang berlangsung sehari penuh di New York, Minggu, menyetujui satu konsensus mengenai rencana yang ambisius untuk mengembangkan, melindungi dan menghidupi anak-anak.

Sebanyak 71 pemimpin dunia menghadiri KTT istimewa ini dan serentak memberikan restu mereka dalam suatu deklarasi dan rencana aksi untuk menyelamatkan anak-anak sedunia, dengan cara melindungi mereka dari bahaya kelaparan dan penyakit, mendidik dan menunjang kesejahteraan mereka.

"Kita telah berkumpul dalam pertemuan tinggi dunia anak-anak ini untuk memulai satu komitmen bersama dan mengajukan satu permohonan mendesak bagi seluruh dunia yakni memberikan setiap anak satu masa depan yang lebih baik," kata deklarasi yang dikeluarkan KTT.

KTT PBB pertama tentang anak-anak itu diprakarsai oleh para pemimpin dari Kanada, Mesir, Mali, Meksiko, Pakistan dan Swedia.

Dalam pidato penutupnya, Perdana Menteri Kanada Brian Mulroney, yang menjadi ketua KTT bersama Presiden Mali Moussa Traore, mengatakan: "Satu dunia yang lebih baik bagi anak-anak, saat ini baru berada dalam jangkauan kita, tetapi belum dalam genggaman kita. Sudah tiba saatnya untuk memadukan kata-kata dengan tindakan nyata kita."

Perlahirs berwajarah

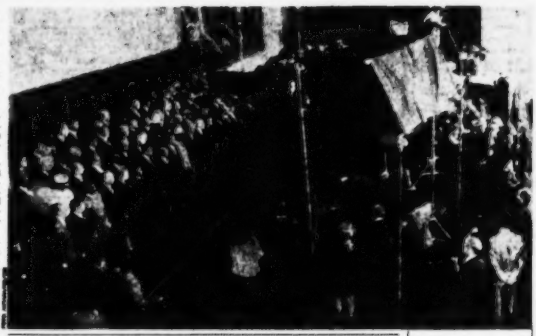
Menurut statistik PBB, sekitar 14 juta anak sedunia di bawah usia lima tahun meninggal tiap tahun, atau rata-rata 40.000 tiap hari, karena kekurangan gizi dan penyakit.

"Hari ini kita membuat sejarah," kata Perdana Menteri Swedia Ingvar Carlsson ketika ia menggambarkan deklarasi dan rencana aksi setebal lima halaman itu sebagai satu "tantangan dan tekad untuk bertindak."

Rencana tersebut mencanangkan sasaran-sasaran khusus yang diharapkan akan dicapai menjelang akhir abad itu, termasuk pembasmian penyakit polio, mengurangi tingkat kematian sampai separuhnya, pengurangan 50 persen tingkat kematian anak karena diare dan 90 persen pengurangan dalam kasus-kasus penyakit campak.

Untuk memenuhi sasaran kesehatan dan pendidikan dasar bagi anak-anak pada abad mendatang, diperlukan modal antara US$ 5 milyar 7,5 milyar, dan sekitar US$ 20 milyar tiap tahun untuk mencapai sasaran yang diajukan secara internasional.

Deklarasi tersebut juga mencakup satu bagian penting yang menyerukan "pengesahan dan pelaksanaan secara menyeluruh perjanjian mengenai hak asasi anak." (ME-AS)



Israel-Soviet Buka Hubungan Konsuler

New York, (Ant/Reuter

Uni Soviet dan Israel setuju Minggu untuk membuka hubungan konsuler, menteri-menteri luar negeri mereka mengumumkan setelah pembicaraan mereka di PBB.

Kedua negeri sudah mempunyai misi-misi konsuler di ibukota satu sama lain tapi persetujuan itu akan menempatkan hubungan pada tingkatan yang lebih tinggi, kata Menteri Luar Negeri Soviet Eduard Shevardnadze.

Uni Soviet memutuskan hubungan diplomatik dengan Israel pada 1967, pada waktu Perang Arab- Israel enam hari.

Kami telah memutuskan untuk menjalin hubungan konsuler antara Israel dan Uni Soviet. Di Tel Aviv dan di Moskow konsulat jenderal akan didirikan," kata Shevardnadze sesudah sebuah pernyataan serupa dalam bahasa Ibrani oleh Menteri Luar Negeri Israel David Levy.

Langkah hari Minggu itu merupakan satu hal baru dalam hubungan yang mengharu antara kedua negara.

Ketika berbicara secara pertemuan dengan Levy yang berlangsung hampir 90 menit, Shevardnadze mengatakan pembicaraan lebih lanjut akan diadakan sepekan atau 10 hari lagi untuk merealisasikan pemulihan perpecahan hubungan diplomatik."

KTT ANAK: Tujuhpuluh satu pemimpin dunia berfoto bersama pada pembukaan Pertemuan Puncak bagi Anak-Anak di PBB, New York, Minggu.

Merdeka
Indonesia

The Jakarta Post
Indonesia

The Mainichi Shimbun
Japan

毎日新聞

子どもサミットへの期待

The Nihon Keizai Shimbun
Japan

日本経済新聞

子供最優先の政策約束

子供サミット閉幕

子供サミット世界宣言要旨

THE WORLD

Give the Kids
A Chance

World Summit
For Children

Through the Eyes of Children

— "Photographic Messages" From the Children of Asia —

"First Call" for Children

"Just Like the Air We Breathe"

"I DRAW MY DREAM HOUSE"
Drawing Contest

MITSUI REAL ESTATE SALES Co., Ltd.

Asahi Evening News
Japan

Action plan to give children a better future

NEW YORK, Mon — The World Summit for Children ended yesterday with a declaration containing "an urgent universal appeal to give every child a better future."

The declaration on the survival, protection and development of children, is accompanied by a more detailed Plan of Action for achieving those goals and will be presented to the UN general assembly today.

"We have gathered at the World Summit for Children to undertake a joint commitment and to make an urgent universal appeal to give every child a better future," the declaration says in its opening paragraph.

It then sets out the challenge, saying: Each year 40,000 children die from malnutrition and diseases including Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS), from the lack of clean water and inadequate sanitation and from the effects of the drug problem.

"The lives of tens of thousands of boys and girls can be saved every day by acting on the causes of their death are readily preventable," the declaration says.

At present, it adds, over 500 million children — two-thirds of them girls — are without basic schooling, while half a million mothers die each year from causes related to childbirth.

Improving the well-being of children must be a very high priority when trading resources freed by current moves toward disarmament, the document states.

The declaration sets out to expand programmes to protect the rights of children and to improve their lives.

The first goal it pledges to implement the Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted last November by the UN general assembly after 10 years of work, and already in force.

● Reduction of children during armed conflicts, famines and the environment and elimination of poverty and marginalisation of countries' growth, including additional assistance to developing countries, improved terms of trade and further debt relief.

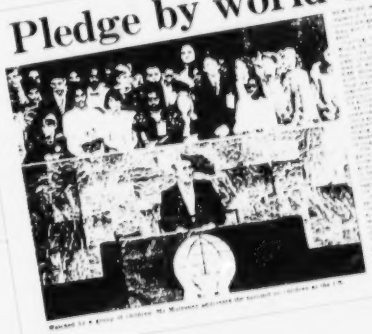
The Plan of Action sets out a number of specific goals to be achieved by the year 2000, including:

● Reduction of 1990 under five child mortality rates by one-third or to a level of 70 per 1,000 live births, whichever rate is the greater.

● [illegible]

Times World
Malaysia

Pledge by world leaders to the children



Bush (L) and Group of children. Mr Bush's address was the summit conference in the U.S.

Evil things

Times World
Malaysia

Meeting on children's rights

UNITED NATIONS, Sat — President George Bush will join more than 70 other world leaders at the Children's Summit, but the US is not ready to sign an agreement guaranteeing basic children's rights, a senior US official said yesterday.

Mr Bush will announce a US programme to wipe out measles, polio and other childhood diseases in America and pledge more funds for children suffering from AIDS, said the official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The United States and the rest of the world community, represented at the meetings today and tomorrow, also will announce new strategies to reduce infant mortality, illiteracy, and to make health care more available to mothers and children, among other goals.

One of the major purposes of the Children's Summit is to seek more signatures and ratifications of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

That treaty went into effect this month after at least 20 nations had ratified it.

At least 43 nations have ratified the convention, which requires nations to guarantee the survival of children, their protection, development, and the right to take part in planning their upbringing, as well as freedom of thought and conscience. — AP

The Malay Mail
Malaysia

गोरखापत्र

Gorkhapatra Daily
Nepal

THE RISING NEPAL

Focus On Children

SINCE the children of today are the hopes and expectations as well as the future leaders of tomorrow, every nation, government and community has an obligation to ensure that these vulnerable and fragile buds of mankind get all possible measures so that they would be able to blossom in their full glory and splendour in time to come. However, if we are to go by the statistics of the present day world, especially in the developing world, many of these buds of youth would be withering before they could reach their full maturity due to the lack or absence of adequate facilities. Every year, around 15 million children under five would be succumbing to various diseases. What is more, sizable [illegible] of their untimely deaths could have been prevented through an inexpensive course of vaccination, [illegible] oral therapy and education by way of [illegible]. And the same could also be the misery of many who could succeed to survive the malnutrition and ill-health [illegible] these tender objects of developing [illegible] in the [illegible].

[illegible] to achieve a [illegible] of the children of the developing world, especially those in [illegible] Latin America, [illegible] the developing world today have an access to clean drinking water and adequate sanitary facilities. The [illegible] of the developing world today have an access to [illegible] and adequate health services facilities. [illegible] children [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Children helping children

unicef

United Nations Children's Fund

Fonds des Nations Unies pour l'enfance

Romanian delegates Shelley Empson and Kirsty Thomas listen with Unicef information officer Sally Bernheim to the Bangladesh delegates speaking at the Unicef Youth Mini-Summit for Children yesterday.

The summit came after the World Summit for children held in New York last month and coincided with Universal Children's Day today.

Pupils from Wellington intermediate schools acted as delegates from Australia, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Romania, South Africa, Germany, Western Samoa and Tokelau to voice their ideas and concerns about the situation of children in these countries. They planned to form a declaration focusing on health, education, environment and children's rights to be presented to the Government and Unicef headquarters in New York.

The mini-summit was held at Wellington City Council chambers.

The Evening Post
New Zealand

CLASSROOM TODAY

Children have been described as the world's most precious resource. Today CLASSROOM provides some information on the situation of children in poorer countries around the world. We also suggest some activities for celebrating Universal Children's Day, which this year will be held on October 24. Thanks to Unicef for providing material used on this page.

Remember the children

Only hope for many

One dollar can save a life

A child's rights

Street life is tough

A sad tale of 'easy' death

Study world's children

Have fun with these games

Auckland Star
New Zealand

SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN THREATENED

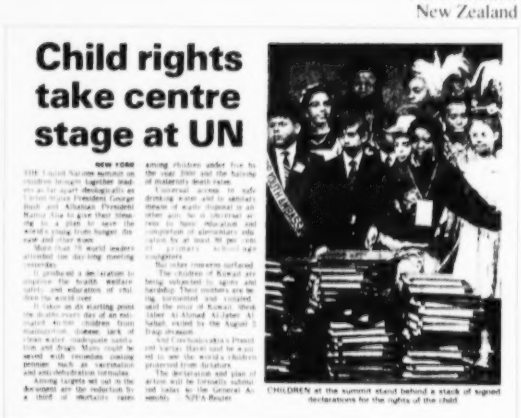
The Gisborne Herald
New Zealand

Saving the world's children

FRIDAY ISSUES

The Timaru Herald
New Zealand

The Dominion
New Zealand



Child rights take centre stage at UN

NEW YORK

CHILDREN at the summit stand behind a stack of signed declarations for the rights of the child

Friday Nation

28 SEPTEMBER 1990

Children's rights need legalisation

"Mankind owes the child the best it has to give," so says the United Nations **Declaration** on the Rights of **the Child,** 1959. Nobody would **disagree with** that sentiment. **Yet every day** millions of children around the world struggle to survive the horrors of war, homelessness, physical and psychological abuse, economic exploitation and a myriad of other problems which mock the assumption that children deserve special treatment because they are the most vulnerable.

Many of the problems facing children are universal, with actions and protective measures needed in countries both in the North and The South. Child abuse, armed conflict, drug and alcohol addiction, the need for family assistance, and the problems of street children do not stop at national borders.

In November 1989, the United Nations General Assembly decided that nice words and assumptions were not enough. It was time to codify children's right in a formal international agreement. Thus was born the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which human rights advocates hope will be landmark in the survival, development and protection of children.

Described as a 'Magna Carta' or 'Bill of Rights' for children, the Convention details the rights of all persons under 18 years of age to develop to their full potential free from hunger and want, neglect, exploitation or other abuses. It demonstrates that humanity has travelled a long way since the 19th century British philosopher John Stuart Mill, the champion of individual liberty, said such rights were "meant to apply only to human beings in the maturity of their faculties. We are not speaking of children."

It took 10 years of intricate negotiations to reach agreement on the Convention, which has 54 articles covering children's civil, economic, social, cultural and political rights. The General Assembly's unanimous adoption led the Convention was followed by the opening of the document for signature in January, when 61 nations signed on the first day, thus officially indicating an intention to consider ratification.

To translate the document into national action it must be ratified by Governments, often a slow process since ratification requires legislation.

Once the Convention is ratified by 20 nations it will come into effect as an internationally binding legal document, and those countries that ratify it will be held to a standard of conduct towards children. Countries that are parties to the Convention will be obliged to report regularly to the Committee on the Rights of the Child on steps taken to comply with its provisions.

The Convention reflects universal standards of treatment but declares for the first time in one legal instrument. Previously the few protections were scattered through scores of international agreements of varying scope and status. The General Assembly adopted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child in 1959 as a statement of general principles, but it carries no legally binding obligations.

Some nations have had considerations and laws protecting human [illegible] situation [illegible] a comprehensive [illegible] set [illegible] United [illegible] Convention [illegible] 10 million refugee children in 1989 as a statement of general principles, but it carries no legally binding obligations.

Some nations have had considerations and laws protecting human rights, but the situation remains a comprehensive set of United Nations

The Times of Papua New Guinea
Papua New Guinea

THE TIMES

K41m BUDGET DEFICIT

International school transfer

Times business awards

p. 24

PNG BUSINESS p. 25

Church Times p.21

For the choice of those that know!

Philippine Daily Inquirer
Philippines

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Gov't sets nat'l plan for children

Philippines Journal
Philippines

PHILIPPINES JOURNAL

DECLARATION ON CHILDREN

PRESIDENT Aquino is presented the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s by Keshab B. Mathema, United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF) representative to the Philippines. Looking on is Azyet Borres from the Asilo de San Vicente.

Philippines Newsday
Philippines

PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY

TRUTH AND EXCELLENCE

VOL. II, NO. 107, MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1990

The Nation's Political and Business Newspaper

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY. Children of political detainees from the Visayas gather at the *Karnaval para sa Karapatang Pantao* (Carnival for Human Rights) at the Quezon Memorial Circle in Quezon City which has been put up to commemorate Human Rights Day. Exhibits depicting the struggles of human rights advocates and victims are on display.

THE PHILIPPINE STAR

TRUTH SHALL PREVAIL

WORLD DECLARATION ON CHILDREN

The Philippine Star
Philippines

유니세프등, 모의회담·초불행사·인공제 마련

The Hankook Ilbo
Republic of Korea

1990년
9월 24일
월요일

소년동아일보

우리가 서로 사랑하여 좋은 세상 되기 바랍니다

어린이를 위한 세계 정상회담 앞두고 25개 다리서 경적

우리나라서도 16개 市郡에 모두 600여곳서 일제히 울려

축제

어린이 권리협약 가입키로

Dong-A Ilbo
Republic of Korea

어린이에 資源 최우선

71개국 頂上 첫 한자리에

세계銀 지원 매년 백만명 구호

The Chosun Ilbo
Republic of Korea

The Island
Sri Lanka

A letter to the grown-up leaders of our countries
UNIVERSAL CHILDREN'S DAY
The environment: a threat to children
Give your child the key to his future
Union Child Welfare Policy

UNIVERSAL CHILDREN'S DAY
The largest generation: the state of the world's children in 1990s
The environment
OUR BIG PLAN FOR YOUR LITTLE ONE.
SEYLAN CHILD PROTECTION ACCOUNT
Orange
Delta
the natural goodness of real fruits

'Children of violence' – a national problem
UNIVERSAL CHILDREN'S DAY
Challenge for the 1990s: Development with a human face
What will they be tomorrow?
Immunize your child today. Tomorrow may be too late.

UNIVERSAL CHILDREN'S DAY
Today's children, tomorrow's leaders
Learning needs of the young child
Cute & Comfy Kiddies wear from DSI
DSI

เดลินิวส์

วันพฤหัสบดีที่ 20 กันยายน พ.ศ. 2533

'นำชาติ'เยือนแคนาดา-ยุโรป

เมื่อเวลา 11.30 น. วันที่ 19 ก.ย. ที่ศูนย์แถลงข่าวรัฐบาล นายสุวิทย์ ยอดมณี โฆษกประจำสำนักนายกรัฐมนตรีแถลงว่า นายกรัฐมนตรีจะเดินทางไปเยือนแคนาดาอย่างเป็นทางการระหว่างวันที่ 4-6 ต.ค. ตามคำเชิญของนายไบรอัน มัลโรนี นายกรัฐมนตรีแคนาดา ในระหว่างการเยือนสังกัดนายกรัฐมนตรีจะพบปะและหารือข้อราชการกับนายกรัฐมนตรีแคนาดาที่กรุงออตตาวา โดยจะหารือในเรื่องต่าง ๆ ที่มีความสนใจร่วมกัน ทั้งในระดับทวิภาคีและพหุภาคี ด้านความร่วมมือทางเศรษฐกิจและวิชาการ การฟื้นและการลงทุนความร่วมมือในภูมิภาคเอเชียและแปซิฟิก ปัญหากัมพูชา และปัญหาอื่นๆ นอกจากนี้นายกรัฐมนตรีจะเดินทางไปเยือนนครโตรอนโตและนครมอนทรีออล เพื่อพบปะนักธุรกิจชั้นนำของแคนาดา โดยนายกรัฐมนตรีจะกล่าวสุนทรพจน์ทางเศรษฐกิจ เพื่อชักชวนให้นักธุรกิจแคนาดาเข้ามาทำการค้าและลงทุนในประเทศไทยเพิ่มมากขึ้นด้วย

ในการเยือนครั้งนี้จะมีผู้แทนภาคเอกชนของไทยเดินทางไปด้วย เพื่อพบปะหารือกับผู้แทนภาคเอกชนแคนาดา ในการหาลู่ทางขยายการค้าและการลงทุนระหว่างประเทศทั้งสอง ก่อนการเยือนแคนาดานายกรัฐมนตรีจะเดินทางไปเยือนกรุงปารีส เพื่อเข้าร่วมประชุมสุดยอดว่าด้วยเด็กที่สหประชาชาติในวันที่ 30 ก.ย. ถึงนี้ และกล่าวสุนทรพจน์ในที่ประชุมสหประชาชาติ สมัยที่ 45 ในวันที่ 2 ต.ค. นี้ด้วย.

Daily News
Thailand

THE NATION Sunday September 23, 1990

World leaders to talk about children

The Nation
Thailand

...CKLY/ UNICEF QUIZ FEATURE

●RIGHTS OF THE CHILD●

...World ...for Children

By Bernie Cooper

THE World Summit for Children is over. What will it achieve? Last week, the Executive Director of UNICEF, James Grant was asked the question: Can the problems of children be solved by heads of state?

Tears as well as applause

Student Weekly
Thailand

C8 Focus THE NATION Thursday September 20, 1990

A summit for the world's children

Compass News Features' **Farida Ghani Burtis** reports on September 29 what is expected to be the biggest-ever summit meeting of world leaders will try to do something to end their suffering.

Presidents George Bush and Mikhail Gorbachev will join more than 60 other heads of state or government at the United Nations headquarters in New York on September 29 to convene the World Summit for Children.

The two-day meeting is expected to be the largest gathering of world leaders in history.

"The growing impact on children of several critical global problems — notably war and violence, poverty, debt, degradation of the environment, and drugs — demands concerted international action," said L. Yves Fortier, Canada's ambassador to the UN and co-chairperson of the summit planning committee.

The overall aim is to give children priority on the world's resources.

"The summit is expected to bring attention and promote commitments at the highest political level, to goals and strategies for ensuring the survival, protection and development of children as key elements in the socio-economic development of all countries," said Fortier.

The meeting comes at a time when 14 million children die unnecessarily each year, according to the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (Unicef) and US congressional estimates.

"Nearly 80,000 children who will be alive during the summit's opening ceremonies will be dead by the time the summit ends," said Congressman Tony Hall of Ohio, who will participate in the summit.

Eighty countries have still to announce whether or not they will attend the conference, but one of the reasons for the good response so far is that the summit will coincide with the first phase of the new UN General Assembly session.

Every year, many leaders attend the three-week debate, which starts in late September.

The summit is not an official UN event, but Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar invited leaders on behalf of the six initiating countries — Canada, Egypt, Mali, Mexico, Pakistan and Sweden.

Membership of the summit planning committee has increased from the original six to 70. Unicef will serve as the secretariat of the conference.

Among those who have agreed to attend are King Hussein of Jordan and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, presidents Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and Francois Mitterrand of France, and prime ministers Margaret Thatcher of Britain and Brian Mulroney of Canada.

James P. Grant, executive director of Unicef, said a "major renewal effort by both industrialized and developing countries" was needed to protect the rising generation.

"Only the commitment of a nation's leaders, and the support of all sections of society can mobilize the breadth of resources required to put today's low cost and affordable child protection knowledge into action on the necessary scale," he said.

According to Unicef, measles, whooping cough and tetanus — all preventable with inexpensive vaccines — kill almost 8,000 children every day.

Pneumonia, which can be treated by low-cost antibiotics, kills more than 6,000 children a day and diarrhoeal dehydration about 5,000 a day.

Unless the summit will have failed if it does not come up with specific measures. A declaration and plan of action it will consider will set goals such as:

- Reduce by a third the mortality rate of children under five, currently running at nearly 15 million deaths a year.
- Reduce the maternal mortality rate by half. Half a million women die annually as a result of pregnancy and childbirth.
- Reduce malnutrition by half. In developing countries about 40 per cent of children under five suffer from malnutrition.
- Provide universal access to safe drinking water and sanitary waste disposal.
- Provide basic primary school education for at least 80 per cent of the nearly 100 million children not in any educational programmes.
- Reduce adult illiteracy by at least half, with emphasis on female literacy. About 50 per cent of women and 30 per cent of older children are illiterate.
- Improve protection of child victims of exploitation, abuse and wars.

The summit's $1.5 million cost is expected to be met by donations, mainly from UN member-countries. The additional cost of programmes to prevent 50 million child deaths in the 1990s, would reach approximately $2.5 billion a year by the end of the decade.

Asked where such a sum would come from, Grant said: "In one year, American companies spend $2.5 billion to advertise cigarettes; in one month the Soviet people spend that amount on vodka; every day the world spends £2.5 billion on the military.

"The money is available. It is a question of priorities — and determination to mobilize all possible resources to get the job done."

Grant, who has the principal responsibility for the summit, wanted such a meeting as a logical follow-up to last year's historic adoption of the Rights of the Child convention, which became binding international law on signatories on September 2, 1990.

At present 29 countries have ratified the convention, two have acceded to its and 105 countries have signed it.

UN diplomats feel that Brian Mulroney's close relationship with Bush and his influence at this year's summit of industrialized nations in Texas provided a big boost to the children's summit.

It earlier appeared that the conference was off to a slow start, with no certainty that important world leaders would attend.

Grant: "The money is available. It is a question of priorities — and determination to mobilize all possible resources to get the job done."

This Brazilian boy is one of the many who scavenge for food around the garbage dumps of Sao Paulo.

الموافق ٢٩ من سبتمبر ١٩٩٠م ●

عمان

الصفحة الخامسة

في أول مؤتمر عالمي من نوعه للأطفال

السلطنة تشارك بشكل إيجابي وفعّال

بقلم سعادة سعود بن سالم العنسي

سعادة سعود بن سالم العنسي وحرمه مع سعادة جيمس اجرانت المدير التنفيذي لليونسيف ورئيس لجنة الاعداد للمؤتمر العالمي للطفل وحرمه

من أبرز وثائق المؤتمر

ترجمة حقوق الأطفال إلى قوانين

ن الطفولة ـ البيئة والتطور العلمي موضوعات مطروحة للنقاش

مطبخ

آيس كريم العناب

المقادير

- علبة عناب بالعصير وزنها ٢١٢ جراما - بيضتان - ٢ ملاعق كبيرة سكر - ملعقة ونصف عصير كامل الدسم بدون ملح - كوبان من اللبن الحليب - علبة جيلاتين - ربع كيلو

صلصة العناب

- علبة عناب بالعصير - ١ ملاعق صغيرة سكر - أعواد نعناع لتخضير الزينة

الطريقة

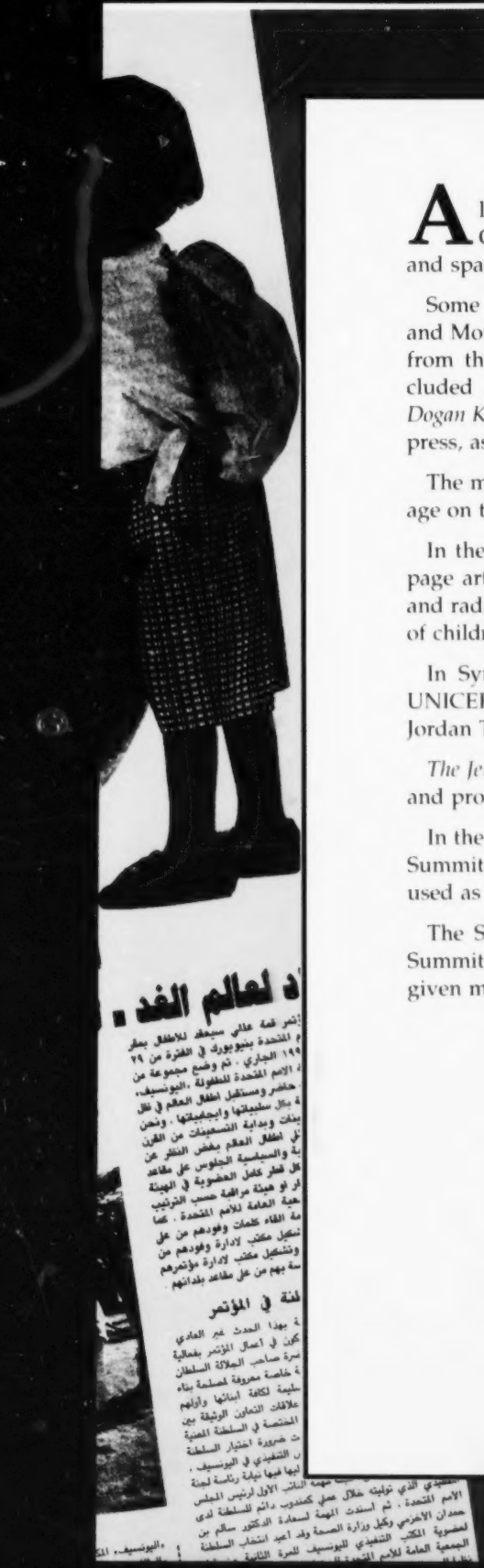
- يصفى العناب والعصير من خلال مصفاة سلك
- يخفق صفار البيض مع السكر في اناء واسع حتى يصبح لونه أصفر باهتا ثم يضاف اليه الكريمة فالورد مع الخفق أيضا ويوضع الحليب على النار حتى يغلي ثم يرفع عن النار ويترك حتى يفتر قليلا ثم يضاف الى الخليط مع الخفق الى خليط البيض.
- يعاد الخليط الى اناء على النار ويترك حتى يغلي مع التحريك المستمر ثم يرفع عن النار ويترك حتى يفتر قليلا ثم يضاف الى الخليط الكشتره سميكا

نتيجة لثلاثة أمراض فتاكة هي الحصبة والسعال الديكي والكزاز . كما ان الجفاف الناجم عن الاسهال ما زال يقتل بدوره ٧٠٠٠ طفل يوميا . وبكل مرض ذات الرئة ينهمونها الحلقة الدموية بدوره بازهاق حياة ٦٠٠٠ طفل يوميا ومقابل كل طفل يموت هناك عدة أطفال اخرون يعانون من سوء التغذية واعتلال الصحة . ويعجزون بالتالي عن تحقيق النمو الكامل عقليا وجسديا والى جانب حقائق تلك الارقام الدولية المروعة عن وفيات الاطفال في العديد من اقطار العالم المعاصر ومدى ما يلحقه ذلك من خسائر جسيمة بشعوب ومجتمعات تلك البلدان . فان صمة الكثير من الامهات تتعرض أيضا للخطر لنفس الاسباب المؤدية لفقد فلذات اكبادهن أمام أعينهن دون ان يكون بإمكانهن ابة وسائل متاحة للانقاذ . ولي كل عام تموت اكثر من ٥٠٠٠٠٠ نصف مليون امراة في العالم ٩٩٪ منها في الاقطار النامية . وكان بالامكان تفادي الكثير من هذه الوفيات المؤسفة عبر توفير الغذاء والرفاية اللازمة لهم والطفل اثناء الحمل وخلال عملية تسهيل الولادة وبعدها .

المشاركة الدولية في المؤتمر

إنطلاقا من مفهوم شار نجاح أعمال مؤتمر القمة العالمي للطفل بامكانية إحالة عقد التسعينات الى عقد للنجاحات والانجازات لمصلحة ورعاية الامومة والطفولة . وبذلك يمكن ان يقدم للبشرية في اواخر هذا القرن افضل واسمى هدية لأجيال القرن القادم الجديد عقد تزايد اهتمام الكثير من اقطار العالم فيه على اكبر نطاق ممكن . فقد

طفال عمان لاطفال العالم في



Although the Middle East was enmeshed in the drama unfolding in the Gulf, the media in the area stretching from Morocco to Iran found time and space to cover children's issues and the World Summit for Children.

Some of the most extensive press treatment in the region occurred in Turkey and Morocco. The UNICEF offices in both countries sent compilations of articles from the press, totalling more than 50 pages each. The Turkish coverage included an especially eye-catching presentation for children in the magazine *Dogan Kardes*. The articles in Morocco ran in both the Arabic and French-language press, as did pieces in Tunisian newspapers.

The major Cairo newspapers, *Al Ahram* and *Al Akhbar*, had widespread coverage on the issues leading up to the Summit as well as on the meeting itself.

In the Gulf region, newspapers in Oman, Saudia Arabia and Yemen ran full page articles on children's concerns during the Summit period. Gulf television and radio stations also provided four days of concentrated broadcasts on the state of children in both Arabic and English.

In Syria, a 55-minute panel discussion on the subject of children and the UNICEF Summit video, "341", were broadcast on both television networks. Jordan TV aired "341" as part of a local programme dealing with children.

The Jerusalem Post in Israel ran a major Op-Ed article advocating more concern and protection for children.

In the Iranian press there were numerous articles on issues connected with the Summit and on the Sixth International Festival of Films for Children, which was used as a post-Summit advocacy event.

The Sudanese press carried major stories on President Bashir's offer at the Summit to implement a cease-fire in the country's civil war. The offer was also given major treatment by the BBC World Service in its broadcasts to the region.

EGYPT EGYPT EGYPT EGYPT EGYPT EGYPT EGYPT EGYPT EGYPT EGYPT EGYPT EGYPT EGY

□ ١٩٩٠/٨/٢٦

والطفولة ايضا مشروع قومى !

في يوم ٣٠ سبتمبر القادم تقف سيدتي قادة ورؤساء حكومات دول العالم في قمة خاصة من اجل الطفولة تعقد في مقر الامم المتحدة لبدارسوا معكم عمله ازاء هذه الاوضاع المأساوية لأطفال العالم

ولو قال عدد ، الأطفال لولا ، مستقرار ورسما في صغار الأمم والمجتمع الدول لكانت قمة هذا المؤتمر مختلفة عما

لمنزال الأطفال الأقل والأضعف هم الذين يدفعون دور العالم الثالث من بؤرهم الطبيعي وصحتهم وسعادتهم بعد ان احتفلت معدلات الدخل في دول امريكا اللاتينية بنسبة ٢٠ / ٢٠ / في دول افريقيا الواقعة جنوب الصحراء الكبرى وهذا الانخفاض لايعني بالنسبة لهؤلاء الفقراء الذين يعتبرون ثلاثة ارباع مجتمعه على الحطام الا جوع اطفاهم وتدهور صحة ابنوا التنمية ولم يتوقف الأمر عند هذا الحد بل لقد شهدت السنوات القليلة الماضية انخفاضا في الانفاق الصحي والانفاق على المدارس بنسبة ٢٥ خلال الخط الماضي وطول المدير العام لليونسكو ان السنوات القليلة الماضية قد شهدت توقفا او نسبيا له مثيل في بعو الخدمات التعليمية الأساسية ورقود واتجارا في نوعية التعليم في نصف اقطار العالم النامي

وقد قال ذلك قبله منيجة شركاوت الاقتصادي البارع عن ميزانية العالم النامي والتوازنات التي بلزمت عليه ان مجموع والتي تربو على ١٧٥ مليار دولار في العام وهي تمثل مقربة على ٣ اضعاف كل المساعدات التي يتسلمها ويدفعها الأطفال الأكثر والأضعف مما سلفي من مطالعهم بسحب ثروى الخدمات

فلا قال نلقي الواحد والعشرين ان يكون قرنا افضل بالنسبة للأغلبية مما كان عليه القرن العشرين فمن الضروري ان يكون عدا ، الأطفال اولا ، جزءا لايتجزأ من الفكر السياسي الجديد وقد اثبتت الدراسات التي قامت بها منظمة اليونيسيف اننا نستطيع ان نضع هذا الهدف الأوضاع المأساوية التي يعيشها اطفال العالم اذا تكاتف المجتمع الدول لمواجهتها عندنا يمكن ان نخفض وفيات الأطفال وان نصح استطاعتهم وان نضمن الحرية لكل طفل وان يوفر له الكثير الصحي والتعليم وهو مايستطيع انجازه الآن مؤتمر القمة من أجل الطفولة لتحقيق العالمية المنشودة لحقوق الطفل ، مقبة ومكانة قمة بل مسألة الزام سياسي

وهنا تطرح الدكتورة هدى بدران امينة المجلس الأعلى للطفولة والأمومة ، الطفولة ، نفسها لتكون مشروعا قوميا شبيها ، بمصر

عندما فكر بكثر الحديث حول المشروع الذي يحب ان نلتف حوله قوميا والذي اطلقنا عليه اسم ، المشروع القومي ، وذلك قبل ان يحضر احداث غزو الكويت وتقرها المصرية على حياة العالم الحربي وبقدات تخلفه فكر الحديث بنور ، اننا حول الانجازات الهندسية والمرافق والبنية الأساسية الكوية من تعمير وعمر ، نفر البنية الأساسية الأول لأي مجتمع هي ، البشر ، هي ، البشر ، هذا بدأت الدكتورة هدى بدران امينة المجلس الأعلى للطفولة والأمومة حديثها ثم بدأت تدعو ان تكون ، الطفولة ، مشروعا قوميا فقالت

ان غزو الكويت الغدر ان المشكلة الأساسية في منطقة ، بشر ، فاضحة قرارات فقر محسوبة تشير الآن من البشر في الصحراء القفصية وتعرضوا لأهوال الحرب والمطر والمرض ، منهم من يفر لطفله و الصحراء اي لابد وانهم اسر مهاجرة من بلدان ، دول العالم التي تعاني من تدهور فروقها الاقتصادية فراحت تبحث عن ، فرق في دول الخليج حتى توفر لأطفالها حياة افضل ، لكن ضاع كل ، وه وضاعت حياة اطفالها

والآن المشكلة منطقة شرق قد انتقل شر اخرون ليقعوا عن حدود الدول تجربة الهجرة ، فقرر وهم يحملون ، سلاح للدفاع عما حيث يبقى فقر عيشهم وتستمتعهم ارقام فلكية من الأموال التي ، فكر الأول انطلاقا و نسبة الأقتصادية وقال من مجلة ، ها الغرب او ثم تجربت اقتصاد عصر الدول التي يعاني ، البشر ، مها الآن من ازمة اقتصادية خادمة

اي ان ، البشر ، هم العنصر لأساسي دائما لأي مشكلة لذلك يجب ان نكون ، ازمة البشر ، مشروعا ، علينا قصوى ولابد ان عدا ، بالقضية الأساسية للبشر انفسهم وهي الطفل لهذا السبب ايضا كانت مصر اول ولة تفرعت خطورة واهمية تمثلك ، نطل تمثلة صحية ونفسية سليمة ، داطفت ، الطفل ، الذي نفرض

اطفال الدول النامية الذين يعيشون كوارث الحرب سيكونون موضوعا اساسيا في قمة الطفولة

بهيرة مختار

ان مجتمعهم سليح سالمعرفة والمعلومات الخاصة هن تلك الأمراض التي يمكن بهم ان تقول الوراسة ان المكلفت الإصابة التي يحتاجها الترميم التي يحقق حمقة الطفولة من الأمراض التي يمكن بها مثل سوء التغذية خلال الخط المقل معكر أن نصل الى الغير وحمسمالك ملبون يوازر في العام بحذول بهاية التسعينيات وهذا الرقم لايزيد عن ١ / من الأطفل الصغرى لعالم الطفل ذاته وهي تساوي مغطاه الأنحاء السوفيتي عن الفرد قل شهر هذا ان المليغ لايزيد عما نطفه شركات التبغ الأمريكية هن اعلانات السجائر ، ١ عام وهو يسوى مقيقمه المجتمع

وإني من دعم مال لفرارتمر بل هذا المبلغ يسوى الأطفل الحالي

خبرى في يوم واحد

بعض النظر عن الأسباب التي ادت بأن العالم لايقدر على تحمل كلف اللازمة للمسلوكة بون موت ن الأطفل من سوء التغذية ظر ايضا التعليم بلر الوصول هين للحظر بصعب الوصول ، لأطفلهم على خلال العشرين الماضية استطاع العالم النامي احداث ثورة في اقرائه للوصول بيا والحديث مع قضية مواجهة ، على ذلك نجاح حملات التطفل خض معدلات وفيات الأطفل في

من اجل قمة الطفولة ومن اجل التحدي الكبير نقدم منظمة ، اليونيسيف ، ممثلة في مجموعة من اهداف محددة ، الشروب ، من مليمغر نخطفه الآن وحتى عام ٢ وتشكور ايضا ورقة عمل ، عما الفوس ، الطفولة ، في مصر

فقد بحمت حملات التحصين الشامل للأطفل سنة ٨٠ ، وقالت قد نالت في نهاية السبعينات سنة نحو ٢٠ / فقط ارتفعت في نواخر الثمانينات الى مقرب ٧٠ / سبب نعفى مختلف الوكالات المتخصصة في العمم المتحدة في تحقيق التحصين ونظم الأمكنة المالية والفنية

هذه هي الاصداف التي نطرحها منظمة اليونيسيف لتحقيق حياة افضل للطفولة خلال العقد القادم وذلك في ضوء تجربة مثل تجربة التحصين الشامل

الأهداف الشاملة ١٩٩٠ ـ ٢٠٠٠

● تخفيض معدلات وفيات الأطفال دون الخامسة بمسمة الثلث

● تخفيض معدلات وفيات الأمهات الى النصف وتخفيض حالات سوء التغذية الحادة او المتصلة الى النصف في العقد بين الأطفل الذين هم تحت الخامسة ماعين الماء الصالح للشرب والصحة المحمة لكل العائلات توفير التعليم الأساسي لكل الأطفل والتعليم الابتدائي الكامل للغالبين مالئة هم الأطفل من الأطفال

مليون ١١٠٦ سنة من العمر

تخفيض سنة الأمية بين الكبار الى النصف وتحقيق المساواة في التعليم بين الذكور والأناث حمماة ملايين الأطفل ممن يعيشون في ظروف بالغة الصعوبة وجعل كل الأطفل على قبول وتنفيذ اتفاقية حقوق الطفل التي اعتبرت مؤخرا وسيعني ان تمثل الجهود والتسهيلات لتشجيع الدول والحكومات عن قبول فكرة توفير حماية خاصة للأطفل من الأثار المباشرة وغير المباشرة للحروب حماية الفتيات والنساء

توفير خدمات ومعلومات لتنظيم الأسرة لكل الأزواج لتمكينهم من التفاعل مع العمل لهم المرغوب فيه عددا يكون مناسبا لهذا ولكبير ، وتمكين النساء من التفاعل معه جميعا بكل صعوبات هذا او كبيرات العمر

ان يمكن كل النساء من الحصول على الصحة الكفيلة لهن الولادة وعلى قدر مدرسة الدماء الولادة وعلى تسهيلات المراجعة لحالات الحمل ذات الخطورة العالية مع الام الحامل والولادة غير الخطرة

● الاشراف العالي والمساعدات الصحية والقانونية الخاصة للمرأة خلال طوالتها المقررة وتوقفها وحملها وفترة الرضاعة

التغذية

○ تخفيض عدد الوفيات حوالي منخفض (٢,٥ كيلو جرام) الى ما يقل عن ١٠ /

○ تخفيض حالات فقر الدم بين النساء بمقدار الثلث

○ التخلص تقريبا من الاضطرابات الناشئة عن نقص اليشيور (اليود

○ نشر المعرفة عن عدد اكبر من العلاقات عن اهمية تقديم الدعم للمرأة في عملية ارضاع الطفل عن طريق الثدي فقط خلال اول اربعة الى ستة اشهر من حياة الطفل ومع حاجتها الطفل الغذائية الخاصة خلال سنوات عمره الطفل

○ القضاء على شلل الأطفال

○ القضاء على تيتانوس المواليد بحلول عام ١٩٩٥

○ تخفيض حالات الحصبة بنسبة ٩٠ / وحالات الوفاة بنسبة الحصبة بنسبة ٩٥ / وهذا يعتبر تطبيقه ايضا بحلول عام ١٩٩٥

○ تحقيق نسبة تحصيلية بنسبة ٨٥ / على الأقل ضد التيتانوس الذي يصيب الأطفل في العام الأول والتحصين العام ضد التيتانوس للأمهات في سنوات الحمل مع المحافظة على هذه النسبة

○ تخفيض نسبة وفيات الأطفل نتيجة الإلتهابات التنفسية الحادة بمقدار الثلث

بالإضافة الى التوسع في التعليم الابتدائي على الشرقة الإساسية الحيلولة ومهارات الحياة ، حول مواضيع مثل صحة الأسرة وانتاج الغذاء وتخفيض ساعات العمل وحماية البيئة ، يمكن وضعها تحت تصرف كل العائلات عن طريق استخدام الطفلة الحميلة الهائلة للوسائل الاعلامية

ان معنى هذا النموذج من ورقة العمل ان تتكلف كل جهود المجتمع لرفعة الطفل من خلال استثمار الطفولة لمشروع قومي يجمع مستقبل الشعوب

□ سوزان مبارك

الاستثناء ٣ المشروع

نقف مصر من دوائر دول العالم التي ، هتن الى عقد قمة عالمية من اجل الطفولة والشرقف معها في هذا النداء كل من قدما والقمة ، والمشغل والتموية ، وعالم وقد سبقت هذه الدول امست في حدد اهتمام ١٠ دولة وحكومة لتشاركه في عقد القمة التي ستعقد يوم الأحد القمة بمقر الأمم المتحدة بنيويورك وهدف هذا المؤتمر الى تحقيق الالتزام السياسي من اجل متابعة الاهتمام على اسماس انهم العناصر الرئيسية في التطوير

وبالفات بعد ان تراكمت الآثار السلبية لعدد من المشاكل العالمية الحادة على حياة اطفل العالم واهمها العنف والفقر والتموية ونوى الحياة بالمخدرات حتا يتطلب من الحكومات استخدام الأسلوب الثوري لمتابعة معيشة الأطفل وذلك الحكومات صنعة المعارة تهدد القمة ان هذا المؤتمر سيظهر على فرقه بمصر الدول التي لم توقع حتى الآن على الاتفاقيات الدولية لحقوق الطفولة وستعمل عليها في جهاة المؤتمر حتى تكون هذه الاتفاقيات حاكرة التطبيق

سترئس السيدة سوزان مبارك وقد مصر الى هذا المؤتمر وهو استثناء لم تحصل عليه اية دولة اخرى ، رؤساء الوفود هم رؤساء الحكومات والدول ، نظرا لما يمثله شخص ، السيدة سوزان صباغة من ريادة ، في ميدان خدمات الطفولة والأمومة على مستوى مصر والعالم ، كمرئيس الشرف لمجلس ، الأعلى للطفولة والأمومة ورئيسة رئيس المجلس العربي للطفولة والتنمية ورئيسة جمعية الرعاية المتكاملة

Al Ahram
Egypt

غدا ـ مؤتمر القمة العالمي للطفولة

مصر تعرض على المؤتمر تجربتها في حماية وتنمية الطفل

كتبت د. سوسيا دميوس

Al Akhbar
Egypt

October
Egypt

تحقيقات أكتوبر

يوم الطفل ..

قنبلة عالمية

بقلم: نجوى محمد

الأطفال المتسولون في الشوارع

October
Egypt

کودکان

کشتار، تیره‌روزی و گرسنگی

Adineh
Iran

A world summit for children

Marion Brodie-Olles and Philip E. Veerman

AT A TIME when world leaders are preoccupied with the Gulf crisis and the threat of war, it is remarkable that 80 heads of state and prime ministers will — after in New York with the sole purpose of giving children a better chance for the future.

In September 1990, with the decline of superpower confrontation, leaders — Prime Minister Brian Mulroney of Canada, presidents Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, Moussa Traore of Mali, Carlos Salinas de Gortari of Mexico, then prime minister Benazir Bhutto of Pakistan and Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson of Sweden — called for a World Summit for Children.

The World Summit will be held at UN headquarters. The initiating governments asked Unicef to provide the secretariat to organize the meeting.

The World Summit for Children will mark the first time that leaders around the globe have met for a single purpose: joining hands to try to resolve some of the universal problems that children encounter in developing and surviving to adulthood.

The overall aim of the World Summit is to put children high on the agenda of the 1990s, giving them priority — or "first call" — on the world's resources in good times or bad, war or peace.

The principle of "first call for children" is at the very heart of the World Summit for Children. This principle is so important that it should influence the course of development in all nations in years to come. In essence, it implies that the growing needs and bodies of children should be "first call on security, capacity ... and that children should be at it to depend upon that commitment.

Whether a child is to survive, go to school and be protected from exploitation or abuse should not depend on whether interest rates rise or fall, on whether commodities prices go up or down, on whether a particular political party is in power, on whether a country is at war or not, nor on any other vaguely distant or the endless undulations of political and economic life.

NOTHING COULD illustrate the need for this principle more clearly than the damage which the debt crisis has inflicted on children in recent years. In many parts of the world, cuts in government spending and falls in family incomes have meant that infant mortality has risen, malnutrition has increased, and schools and health clinics have been closed. The result is that the poorest and most vulnerable children have been the most exposed to that kind of debt and recession. This is exactly the opposite of the principle of first call.

The principle of first call also applies to the industrialized countries. In New York, where the summit is to be held, the situation of children has deteriorated dramatically. The number of children living in poverty has risen, and many children are homeless. In 1988, 1,000 New York children were born with the Aids virus.

The principle of first call is universally relevant. No matter what the nation and what the cause, the time has come to protect children as far as is humanly possible, from the mistakes and excesses and vicissitudes of the adult world. Important as the principle of first call may be, the real challenge of the First World Summit for Children is to translate that principle into specific aims which are achievable and affordable in the decade ahead. As James Grant, executive director of Unicef, said, the heads of state and prime ministers should try to "do the doable."

Modern medicine can prevent or cure many of the diseases that have plagued the human race for millennia. Yet 40,000 children under the age of five die every day in the developing countries largely from conditions which, for lack of little more than three cents' worth of health care, a regular supply of

> The time has come to protect children, as far as is humanly possible, from the mistakes and excesses and vicissitudes of the adult world

nutrition or clean water and sanitation. The causes of most of those deaths can be listed on the fingers of one hand: dehydration caused by diarrhoea, pneumonia, measles, tetanus and whooping cough. These five common illnesses, all relatively easy and inexpensive to prevent or treat, will account for over half of all child deaths and over half of all child malnutrition in the decade which lies ahead.

During the World Summit itself, it is estimated that:

- 22,000 children will die from whooping cough;
- 22,800 children will die from measles;
- 22,800 children will die from tetanus;
- 23,450 children will die from malaria;
- 22,250 children will die from diarrhoea;
- 22,800 children will die from pneumonia.

A PROGRAM to prevent the great majority of child deaths and child malnutrition in the decade ahead might reach approximately $2.5 billion per year by the late 1990s. It is as much as the U.S. economists have been spending each hour on the arms race, as the government of the Soviet Union has been spending on nuclear each month.

No government can act on its own to fight the enormous problems and the non-Governmental Organizations will need the advocacy of the heads of state and prime ministers. Because the summit Non-Governmental Organizations — as an Advocate for Children Interests — are going to ask for the same things that children have asked for.

The World Summit will also give new political weight to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child which is now in force. It was adopted on September 2 by the General Assembly of the UN. In the 4 years it was adopted only on November 20, 1989. Up till now Israel has only signed the UN Convention.

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child now constitutes the standard for assessing the performance of any country, such as part of the treatment of its children.

Invitations for the World Summit have been addressed personally to the head of state or government of each UN member. Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has received an invitation, though it is not yet known whether he or President Herzog will attend.

A successful World Summit could make the 1990s the decade in which the shameful tragedy of widespread malnutrition and starvation of children is ended, one signed to history providing a permanent gift of the last decade of the 20th century to the people of the new century.

For this reason, we urge that they all be represented by its prime minister or president.

Marion Brodie-Olles is consultant for the French National Committee for Unicef. Philip E. Veerman was formerly with the Israel Section of Unicef in Jerusalem and is now a Senior Fellow (UNICEF) and Professor of Law at the Erasmus University of Rotterdam.

The Jerusalem Post
Israel

صاحبة السمو الملكي الاميرة لالا مريم تترأس اجتماع المكتب الوطني للجمعية المغربية لمساندة اليونيسيف

الماء الشروب والايام المغاربية للتلقيح والقمة العالمية حول الاطفال، محاور الاجتماع

ترأست صاحبة السمو الملكي الاميرة للامريم الرئيسة الفعلية لجمعية المغربية لمساندة صندوق الامم المتحدة لرعاية الطفولة اليونسيف» عشية يوم الجمعة مقر ديوانها بالرباط اجتماعا مكتب الوطني للجمعية

وخلال هذا الاجتماع الذي تناول موضوع الماء الصالح للشرب وتطهيره والايام المغاربية للتلقيح والقمة العالمية حول الاطفال التي انطلقت امس السبت بنيويورك أعطت صاحبة السمو الملكي تعليماتها للاهتمام بموضوع الماء الشروب وتطهيره نظرا لاهمية ذلك بالنسبة لسلامة صحة الانسان والاطفال بشكل خاص

كما تطرق الاجتماع الذي حضره وزير الدولة مولاي احمد العلوي ووزير الصحة العمومية السيد الطيب بن الشيخ والسيدة نفيسة الزردومي ممثلة اليونسيف الجديدة بالمغرب الى علاقات الجمعية المغربية لمساندة صندوق الامم المتحدة لرعاية الطفولة اليونسيف مع هذه المنظمة ومع الهيئات والمنظمات غير الحكومية

لدكتورة نفيسة الزردومي تبرز الاعمال الجليلة التي تقوم بها صاحبة السمو الملكي لاميرة للامريم على رأس الجمعية المغربية لمساندة اليونسيف لاسعاد الطفل والام بالمغرب

حماية الاطفال تقليد راسخ في الحكمة والتقافة والاعراف المغربية

Le Sahara
Morocco

Annidal Adimocrati
Morocco

الطفولة والمستقبل

LE SENS DU SOMMET P

Sommet mondial pour les enfants

CE QUE VOUS POUVEZ FAIRE

New-York, la ville ou la victime est un enfant

Al Maghrib
Morocco

Above and right: *Al Watan*
Oman

Times of Oman
Oman

AL-BILAD

البلاد

مؤتمر القمة العالمي للاطفال فرصة نادرة لحلول مشاكل اطفال العالم

المؤتمر يهدف الى خلق الالتزام السياسي لاعطاء الاطفال الاولوية

القمة تضمن لملايين الاطفال فرص النمو المتكامل

قمة الطفولة

29 - 30 September 1990
United Nations • New York

يونسيف (يو)

Al-Bilad
Saudi Arabia

AL AYAM

الأيام

ستبدي لك الايام ماكنت جاهلا ويأتيك بالأخبار من لم تزود

رئيس مجلس الادارة ورئيس التحرير نجيل يعقوب الحمر

No. 574 - Monday - October 1st 1990

في جلسة مجلس الوزراء

كلمة سمو أمير الكويت بالأمم المتحدة رسالة مخلصة للضمير العالمي

Al Ayam
Saudi Arabia

ENFANCE
LE DROI

society

THE CHILDREN'S DECADE

Sudan Prepares for Summit

S

The growing impact on children of several critical global problems notably war and violence, poverty, debt, degradation of the environment, and drugs must not be a major concern of all political leaders. These issues present a challenge which demands concerted action.

society

Some Views On The Sudanese Symposium On Childhood

Sudanow
Sudan

Al-Baath
Syria

هدية للقرن الواحد والعشرين

LE RENOUVEAU

LE R.C.D. CELEBRE L'ENFANCE

MESSAGE D'OZAL A BEN ALI

LES RESTRICTIONS DE BAGDAD

A VOCATION CULTURELLE

LA BELLE FIN D'UNE AGONIE

Le Renouveau
Tunisia

DEVELOPPEMENT

PRIORITE SUR LES ADULTES

ECHOS DU SOMMET

NATION

Une expérience riche et des réalisations avant-gardistes au profit de l'enfant

M. ZOUARI A KAIROUAN

SOCIETE

ENFANCE

LE DROIT ET LA LOI

L'enfance, l'éducation et l'école

Çiçek'i burnunda sorular

ÇOCUKÇA

Güler Yücel

Kıyamet mi kopacak ne? Büyüklerim pek benden sözeder oldular. Çocuk mocuk diyorlar da başka birşey demiyorlar bu günlerde. Tas Amerika'nın New York'unda çok sayıda devlet büyükleri bir araya gelip, çocuk hakları savunucusu kesilmiş, bildiriler çıkarıyorlar. Bu bildirinin altına da imza atıyorlar. İmza atmanın yeterli olmadığını kavradıkları için de bu hak maddelerinin uygulanıp uygulanmadığına dair raporlar vermekle de yükümlüler. Bu verdikleri raporların gerçek olup olmadığını denetlemek için, Uluslararası Çocuk Hakları Komitesi söz veriyor.

Bu bildirinin bir maddesinde, "Ulusların ve dünyanın geleceğini bu günün çocuklarının oluşturduğunu" dikkate alarak, "21. yüzyılda insanların ve dünyanın varoluşu, bugün ne tür çocuk yetiştirildiğine bağlıdır" deniyor. Çocuğun dünya vatandaşlığından, evrenselliğinden dem vuruyorlar.

Uzaktan dövülen davullar kulağa hoş gelir ama, bir de yakından gelen seslere bakalım! Daha henüz Türkiye'de çocuk bakanlığı diye bir şey düşünülmedi. Ama onu oluşturacak, "Aile Araştırma Kurumu" Devlet Bakanı Cemil Çiçek'e bağlı olarak kuruldu. Geçenlerde Sayın Bakan, "Müslüman Türk çocuğu" yetiştirmek için çalışmalar yapıldığını açıkladı.

Benim meraklım şu: Çocuk Hakları Bildirisi'nin bir maddesi daha var. O da şöyle 'Ezbere eğitim yok, çocuğun gelişim düzeyi gözönünde tutulacak, zihinsel gelişimi, yaratıcılığı, bireysel karar verme, özgür ve özgün düşünebilmelerine olanak tanıyan bir eğitim programı geliştirilecek'. Bu maddeye göre nasıl bir İslam eğitimi verilecek? Benim bildiğim Müslüman olabilmek için, İslam'ın beş misyonunu bilmek ve uygulamak gerekir. İslam'ın beş esası: Kelime-i Şehadet, Namaz, Oruç, Hac ve Zekat'tır. İslam terbiyecileri, eğitimin küçük yaşlarda başlatılmasından yana. "Çocukken öğretilen şey, taş üzerine nakşetmek gibidir. Kalıcıdır ve akılcanlık haline gelir, oysa ileri yaşlarda eğitim ise, su üzerine yazılan yazı gibi çabuk kaybolur" derler. Bu çok doğrudur. Bu doğruyu nasıl uyguladıkdan da ortada, bugünkü Kur'an kursları bunun en güzel örneği.

Kelime-i Şehadet için en uygun yaş, "çocuğun ilk cümleyi söylediği yaş olmalıdır" deniyor. Bu da üç ve dört yaş dönemidir. Daha ana dilini kıvıramadığım bu dönemde, Arapça bir cümleyi nasıl ezberlerim? Söylediğimin ne anlama geldiğini nasıl kavrayabilirim? Ve benim özgür ve özgün kişiliğime katkısı ne olur?

Bunu bana öğretmek istiyorsanız, neden ana dilimde öğretmiyorsunuz? Namaza ve orucu ise yedi yaşında başlamam gerekiyor. Arkadan Türkü'ük geliyor. Bu da tamamen ezbere dayanan bir yöntemle öğretilecek bana.

Sizler, ezber ve eskimiş yöntemlerden vazgeçip, çocuğa yeni yöntemler bulunceye kadar epey vakit geçecek. En iyisi bana bir model gösterin. Bu modeli tarihten çıkaramazsınız, o zamandan bu zamana sorunlar epey değişmiş. Bu çağdaş sorunlara çözüm bulması beklenen çocuk da buna paralel değişmiştir. Sözün kısası bizim dinimizde daha reformlar gerçekleştirilmemiştir. Bugün "Müslüman-Türk çocuğu" nasıl olmalı? Hangi yöntemler kullanılmalı? Çağdaş bir eğitim yöntemi yok daha ortada.

Bence tek çare, örnek bir insan göstermeye kalkıyor. "Bu adam gibi olun" deyin. Onun gibi amel edin yeni ezbere ahlak yerine, tatbiki bir ahlak ölçüsü bulun. Şimdilik toplumumuzda böyle bir model yok. Başka alanlarda model olarak kabul edilen Atatürk bile, bu Müslüman-Türk yolunun yolcuları tarafından kabul edilmemektedir.

Bana kalırsa, Bakan Çiçek, Türk eğitimine "Müslüman" örneğini dayatmak istediğine göre, kendi kafasında bir model bulmuştur. Bu model neden kendisi olmasın?.. Tavazuundan bunu açıkça söylemiyor belki de. O halde kendisinden ricam: Başta kendisinin nasıl eğitildiğini, çocuklarını Kur'an kursuna yollayıp yollamadığını, hangi İslam anlayışına göre Irak'taki Müslüman çocuklara mercimek bile yollamadığını, Suudi Arabistan'daki çocukların, daha mı Müslüman ve Türk olduklarından onlara arka çıktığını açıklasın, bu konuda gizli saklı hiçbir nokta bırakmasın.

Benim anam, babam da Sayın Bakanı model alsın, akıl kesesin, iş edinip, beni onun gibi eğitsin...

Güneş
Turkey

Doğan Kardeş
Turkey

Dogan Kardes
Turkey

قمة عالمية للأطفال

تعقد في نيويورك قمة عالمية للاطفال تشرف عليها منظمة الامم المتحدة للطفولة يومي ٢٩ سبتمبر (ايلول) المقبل، وذلك في مقر الامم المتحدة.

اعلن ذلك بيان صدر عن مكتب منظمة الامم المتحدة للطفولة «اليونسيف» للدول العربية في الخليج، الذي يتخذ من الرياض مقراً له. وأكد البيان ان رعماء من مختلف دول العالم سيشاركون في هذه القمة، مشيراً الى ان هذه القمة ليست قمة لليونسيف او الامم المتحدة، وإنما هي مؤتمر للحكومات، وأن دور اليونسيف او الامم المتحدة، هو تقديم الخدمة وتوفير المناخ اللازم لهذا المؤتمر.

Al Horriah
Yemen

بدء أعمال مؤتمر القمة العالمي من أجل الاطفال

● نيويورك / و ا خ

بدأت امس في مقر الامم المتحدة في نيويورك اجتماعات مؤتمر القمة العالمية من أجل الاطفال وتستمر حتى اليوم الاحد بحضور اكثر من ٧٠ من قادة دول العالم.

ويصل عدد المشاركين في المؤتمر ليكون اكبر تجمع سياسي وحكومي في التاريخ.

وسوف يطلع اليوم الاعلان العالمي للحفاظ على الاطفال وحمايتهم والدعم المتواصل لتحسين اوضاعهم في العالم الذي تحدد موعد توقيع رؤساء الدول المشاركة في المؤتمر ليكون اقتراحا سياسيا ملزما للدول التي تصدر في نفس الوقت خطة العمل التي تحدد الاهداف المتوقع تحقيقها للطفولة وت

في زمن القرارات السريعة الملتهبة

ماذا سيفعل زعماء العالم في مؤتمر القمة العالمية من أجل الطفل

اكثر من ٣٠ مليون طفل في العالم مشردون في الشوارع

١٠٠ مليون طفل محرومون من التعليم

١٥٠ مليون طفل يعانون سوء التغذية

هورلتسوف: ان الجنس البشري لم يعد يقبل بوفاة الملايين من الاطفال سنويا

بوش: يمكن قياس حكمتنا الوطنية بالطريقة التي نرعى بها اطفالنا

اكثر من ١٠٠ مليون طفل سيلاقون حتفهم في التسعينات

Al Thawra
Yemen

SUNDAY MORNI

Television, with its far-reaching power to influence millions of people around the world immediately, played a key role in stirring public interest in the World Summit for Children.

Because of the instantaneous nature of the medium, it was impossible to record many of the programmes about children that ran in conjunction with the Summit. The following section, however, attempts to give a flavour of the pictorial material carried in a number of countries.

The UNICEF-produced video "341" was probably the most widely seen and heralded television programme involving the Summit. The title stood for the number of children who died while viewers were watching the 12-minute video — just a small fraction of the 40,000 under five who die every day, mainly from preventable causes.

The video was shown at the opening session of the Summit. The leaders, as well as the press watching on monitors, sat in rapt attention as the pictures and narration outlined the sorry plight of children and the fact that humanity has it in its power to change the situation. British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher deviated from her prepared remarks to praise the production. The film played a key role in fostering the conviction at the Summit that the time had come to take action for children.

That same message was then beamed around the world as the video was broadcast on national and commercial, public and cable television in more than 20 countries in both the developing and industrialized world. In Nigeria alone, more than 20 television stations broadcast "341".

Other films also put the issue of children on the public agenda. "Today's Children, Tomorrow's World", produced by UNICEF and narrated by U.S. television personality Mike Wallace, was shown in numerous developing countries. The BBC ran a special one-hour programme called "Tomorrow's Child" during prime time the night after the Summit. In addition, UNICEF produced a half-hour video, "One Day in September", telling the story of the Summit in the words of the leaders, accompanied by footage from the meeting and shots from around the world.

Radio, equally, had global impact, ranging from international networks, such as the BBC, Voice of America, Radio France Internationale, Deutsche Welle and Radio Nederland, to major commercial networks to small, local FM stations. The week before and the week after the Summit, hundreds of radio stations of all sizes ran countless interviews with a variety of specialists and UNICEF officials on the situation of children.

Japan

United States of America

Ecuador

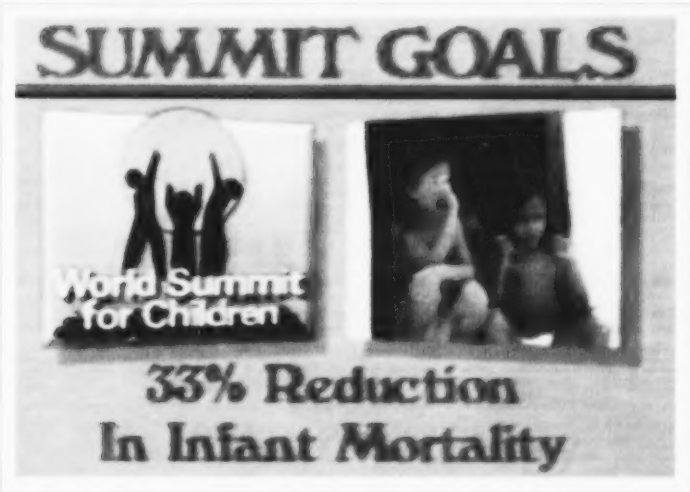
United States of America

Colombia

Canada

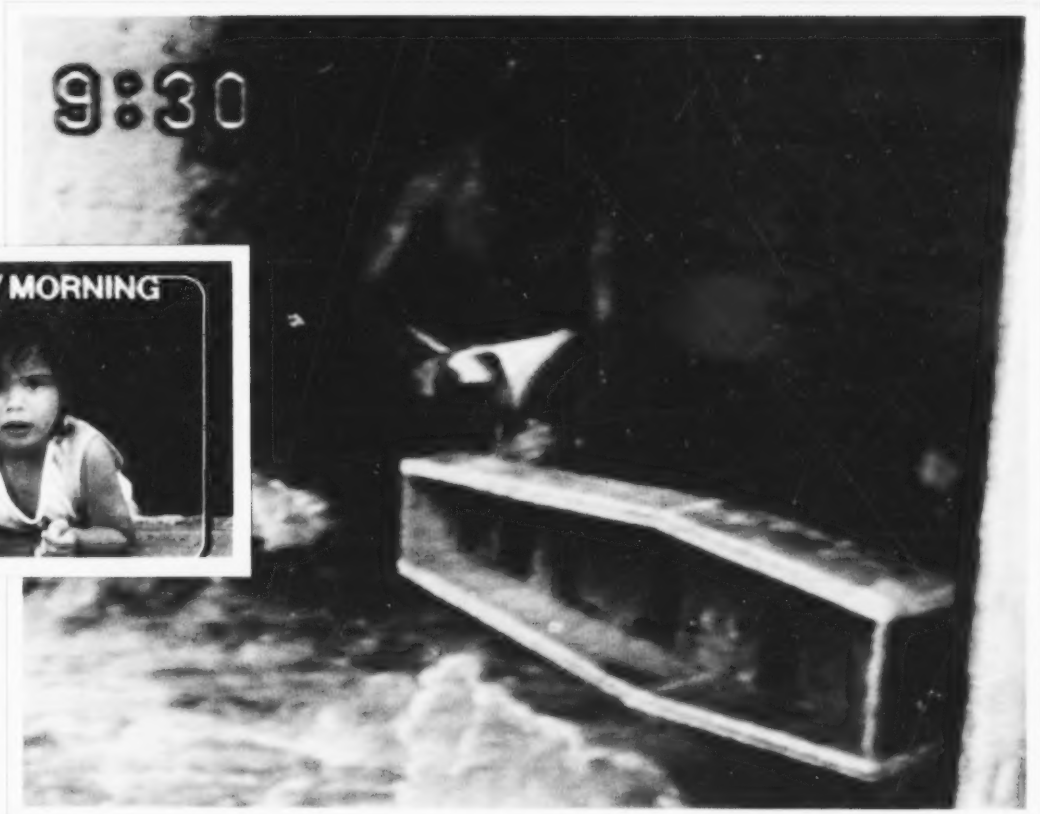
Colombia

Chile



United States of America

Japan



United States of America

Japan

United States of America

United Kingdom

United States of America

United States of America

OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPH OF THE HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT WHO PARTICIPATED AT THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN, 30 SEPTEMBER 1990

Back row *(from left to right)*
Chairman Alia of Albania, President Menem of Argentina, President Ershad of Bangladesh, Prime Minister Sandiford of Barbados, King Baudouin of Belgium, President Collor of Brazil, President Zhelev of Bulgaria, Chairman Dementei of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, President Kolingba of the Central African Republic, President Aylwin of Chile, President Gaviria of Colombia, President Calderón Fournier of Costa Rica, President Havel of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Prime Minister Schlüter of Denmark, Prime Minister Hamadou of Djibouti, Prime Minister Charles of Dominica, President Cristiani of El Salvador, Prime Minister Holkeri of Finland.

Row 3 *(from left to right)*
President Jawara of the Gambia, President von Weizsäcker of Germany, President Vieira of Guinea-Bissau, Secretary of State Casaroli of the Holy See, President Callejas Romero of Honduras, Prime Minister Hermannsson of Iceland, Prime Minister Haughey of Ireland, Prime Minister Andreotti of Italy, Prime Minister Kaifu of Japan, Sheikh Al-Sabah of Kuwait, Prime Minister El-Hoss of Lebanon, Prime Minister Brunhart of Liechtenstein, Grand Duke Jean of Luxembourg, President Gayoom of Maldives, Minister of State Ausseil of Monaco, President Chissano of Mozambique, President Nujoma of Namibia.

Front row *(from left to right)*
Prime Minister Karoui of Tunisia, President Ozal of Turkey, President Museveni of Uganda, Chairman Masol of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Prime Minister Thatcher of the United Kingdom, President Mwinyi of the United Republic of Tanzania, President Bush of the United States of America, President Salinas de Gortari of Mexico, Prime Minister Mulroney of Canada, President Traoré of Mali, Prime Minister Carlsson of Sweden, Secretary-General Pérez de Cuéllar of the United Nations, President Lacalle of Uruguay, Prime Minister Lini of Vanuatu, President Pérez of Venezuela, President Jović of Yugoslavia, Prime Minister Bululu of Zaire, President Mugabe of Zimbabwe. Prime Minister Rocard of France also participated.

Row 2 *(from left to right)*
President Barrios de Chamorro of Nicaragua, Vice-President Aikhomu of Nigeria, Prime Minister Syse of Norway, President Endara Galimany of Panama, Prime Minister Namaliu of Papua New Guinea, Prime Minister Hurtado Miller of Peru, Prime Minister Mazowiecki of Poland, President Iliescu of Romania, President Habyarimana of Rwanda, Prime Minister Simmonds of St. Kitts and Nevis, Prime Minister Compton of St. Lucia, Prime Minister Alesana of Samoa, President Diouf of Senegal, President Momoh of Sierra Leone, Prime Minister González of Spain, President El Bashir of Sudan, President Shankar of Suriname, Prime Minister Dlamini of Swaziland.

WORLD DECLARATION AND PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE SURVIVAL, PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN IN THE 1990s

UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK
30 SEPTEMBER 1990

WORLD DECLARATION ON THE SURVIVAL, PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN

AGREED to at the World Summit for Children on 30 September 1990

1. We have gathered at the World Summit for Children to undertake a joint commitment and to make an urgent universal appeal — to give every child a better future.
2. The children of the world are innocent, vulnerable and dependent. They are also curious, active and full of hope. Their time should be one of joy and peace, of playing, learning and growing. Their future should be shaped in harmony and co-operation. Their lives should mature, as they broaden their perspectives and gain new experiences.
3. But for many children, the reality of childhood is altogether different.

The Challenge

4. Each day, countless children around the world are exposed to dangers that hamper their growth and development. They suffer immensely as casualties of war and violence; as victims of racial discrimination, apartheid, aggression, foreign occupation and annexation; as refugees and displaced children, forced to abandon their homes and their roots; as disabled; or as victims of neglect, cruelty and exploitation.
5. Each day, millions of children suffer from the scourges of poverty and economic crisis — from hunger and homelessness, from epidemics and illiteracy, from degradation of the environment. They suffer from the grave effects of the problems of external indebtedness and also from the lack of sustained and sustainable growth in many developing countries, particularly the least developed ones.
6. Each day, 40,000 children die from malnutrition and disease, including acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), from the lack of clean water and inadequate sanitation and from the effects of the drug problem.
7. These are challenges that we, as political leaders, must meet.

The Opportunity

8. Together, our nations have the means and the knowledge to protect the lives and to diminish enormously the suffering of children, to promote the full development of their human potential and to make them aware of their needs, rights and opportunities. The Convention on the Rights of the Child provides a new opportunity to make respect for children's rights and welfare truly universal.
9. Recent improvements in the international political climate can facilitate this task. Through international co-operation and solidarity it should now be possible to achieve concrete results in many fields — to revitalize economic growth and development, to protect the environment, to prevent the spread of fatal and crippling diseases and to achieve greater social and economic justice. The current moves towards disarmament also mean that significant resources could be released for purposes other than military ones. Improving the well-being of children must be a very high priority when these resources are reallocated.

The Task

10. Enhancement of children's health and nutrition is a first duty, and also a task for which solutions are now within reach. The lives of tens of thousands of boys and girls can be saved every day, because the causes of their death are readily preventable. Child and infant mortality is unacceptably high in many parts of the world, but can be lowered dramatically with means that are already known and easily accessible.
11. Further attention, care and support should be accorded to disabled children, as well as to other children in very difficult circumstances.
12. Strengthening the role of women in general and ensuring their equal rights will be to the advantage of the world's children. Girls must be given equal treatment and opportunities from the very beginning.
13. At present, over 100 million children are without basic schooling, and two thirds of them are girls. The provision of basic education and literacy for all are among the most important contributions that can be made to the development of the world's children.
14. Half a million mothers die each year from causes related to childbirth. Safe motherhood must be promoted in all possible ways. Emphasis must be placed on responsible planning of family size and on child spacing. The family, as a fundamental group and natural environment for the growth and well-being of children, should be given all necessary protection and assistance.
15. All children must be given the chance to find their identity and realize their worth in a safe and supportive environment, through families and other caregivers committed to their welfare. They must be prepared for responsible life in a free society. They should, from their early years, be encouraged to participate in the cultural life of their societies.
16. Economic conditions will continue to influence greatly the fate of children, especially in developing nations. For the sake of the future of all children, it is urgently necessary to ensure or reactivate sustained and sustainable economic growth and development in all countries and also to continue to give urgent attention to an early, broad and durable solution to the external debt problems facing developing debtor countries.
17. These tasks require a continued and concerted effort by all nations, through national action and international co-operation.

The Commitment

18. The well-being of children requires political action at the highest level. We are determined to take that action.
19. We ourselves hereby make a solemn commitment to give high priority to the rights of children, to their survival and to their protection and development. This will also ensure the well-being of all societies.
20. We have agreed that we will act together, in international co-operation, as well as in our respective countries. We now commit ourselves to the following 10-point programme to protect the rights of children and to improve their lives:
    (1) We will work to promote earliest possible ratification and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Programmes to encourage information about children's rights should be launched world-wide, taking into account the distinct cultural and social values in different countries.

(2) We will work for a solid effort of national and international action to enhance children's health, to promote pre-natal care and to lower infant and child mortality in all countries and among all peoples. We will promote the provision of clean water in all communities for all their children, as well as universal access to sanitation.

(3) We will work for optimal growth and development in childhood, through measures to eradicate hunger, malnutrition and famine, and thus to relieve millions of children of tragic sufferings in a world that has the means to feed all its citizens.

(4) We will work to strengthen the role and status of women. We will promote responsible planning of family size, child spacing, breastfeeding and safe motherhood.

(5) We will work for respect for the role of the family in providing for children and will support the efforts of parents, other care-givers and communities to nurture and care for children, from the earliest stages of childhood through adolescence. We also recognize the special needs of children who are separated from their families.

(6) We will work for programmes that reduce illiteracy and provide educational opportunities for all children, irrespective of their background and gender; that prepare children for productive employment and lifelong learning opportunities, i.e. through vocational training; and that enable children to grow to adulthood within a supportive and nurturing cultural and social context.

(7) We will work to ameliorate the plight of millions of children who live under especially difficult circumstances — as victims of apartheid and foreign occupation; orphans and street children and children of migrant workers; the displaced children and victims of natural and man-made disasters; the disabled and the abused, the socially disadvantaged and the exploited. Refugee children must be helped to find new roots in life. We will work for special protection of the working child and for the abolition of illegal child labour. We will do our best to ensure that children are not drawn into becoming victims of the scourge of illicit drugs.

(8) We will work carefully to protect children from the scourge of war and to take measures to prevent further armed conflicts, in order to give children everywhere a peaceful and secure future. We will promote the values of peace, understanding and dialogue in the education of children. The essential needs of children and families must be protected even in times of war and in violence-ridden areas. We ask that periods of tranquillity and special relief corridors be observed for the benefit of children, where war and violence are still taking place.

(9) We will work for common measures for the protection of the environment, at all levels, so that all children can enjoy a safer and healthier future.

(10) We will work for a global attack on poverty, which would have immediate benefits for children's welfare. The vulnerability and special needs of the children of the developing countries, and in particular the least developed ones, deserve priority. But growth and development need promotion in all States, through national action and international co-operation. That calls for transfers of appropriate additional resources to developing countries as well as improved terms of trade, further trade liberalization and measures for debt relief. It also implies structural adjustments that promote world

economic growth, particularly in developing countries, while ensuring the well-being of the most vulnerable sectors of the populations, in particular the children.

The Next Steps

21. The World Summit for Children has presented us with a challenge to take action. We have agreed to take up that challenge.
22. Among the partnerships we seek, we turn especially to children themselves. We appeal to them to participate in this effort.
23. We also seek the support of the United Nations system, as well as other international and regional organizations, in the universal effort to promote the well-being of children. We ask for greater involvement on the part of non-governmental organizations, in complementing national efforts and joint international action in this field.
24. We have decided to adopt and implement a Plan of Action, as a framework for more specific national and international undertakings. We appeal to all our colleagues to endorse that Plan. We are prepared to make available the resources to meet these commitments, as part of the priorities of our national plans.
25. We do this not only for the present generation, but for all generations to come. There can be no task nobler than giving every child a better future.

New York, 30 September 1990

PLAN OF ACTION FOR IMPLEMENTING THE WORLD DECLARATION IN THE 1990s

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GOALS FOR CHILDREN AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE 1990S

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This Plan of Action is intended as a guide for national Governments, international organizations, bilateral aid agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and all other sectors of society in formulating their own programmes of action for ensuring the implementation of the Declaration of the World Summit for Children.

2. The needs and problems of children vary from country to country, and indeed from community to community. Individual countries and groups of countries, as well as international, regional, national and local organizations, may use this Plan of Action to develop their own specific programmes in line with their needs, capacity and mandates. However, parents, elders and leaders at all levels throughout the world have certain common aspirations for the well-being of their children. This Plan of Action deals with these common aspirations, suggesting a set of goals and targets for children in the 1990s, strategies for reaching those goals and commitments for action and follow-up measures at various levels.

3. Progress for children should be a key goal of overall national development. It should also form an integral part of the broader international development strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade. As today's children are the citizens of tomorrow's world, their survival, protection and development is the prerequisite for the future development of humanity. Empowerment of the younger generation with knowledge and resources to meet their basic human needs and to grow to their full potential should be a primary goal of national development. As their individual development and social contribution will shape the future of the world, investment in children's health, nutrition and education is the foundation for national development.

4. The aspirations of the international community for the well-being of children are best reflected in the Convention on the Rights of the Child unanimously adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1989. This Convention sets universal legal standards for the protection of children against neglect, abuse and exploitation, as well as guaranteeing to them their basic human rights, including survival, development and full participation in social, cultural, educational and other endeavours necessary for their individual growth and well-being. The Declaration of the World Summit calls on all Governments to promote earliest possible ratification and implementation of the Convention.
5. In the past two years, a set of goals for children and development in the 1990s have been formulated in several international forums attended by virtually all Governments, relevant United Nations agencies and major NGOs. In support of these goals and in line with the growing international consensus in favour of greater attention to the human dimension of development in the 1990s, this Plan of Action calls for concerted national action and international co-operation to strive for the achievement, in all countries, of the following major goals for the survival, protection and development of children by the year 2000.
   (a) Reduction of 1990 under-5 child mortality rates by one third or to a level of 70 per 1,000 live births, whichever is the greater reduction;
   (b) Reduction of maternal mortality rates by half of 1990 levels;
   (c) Reduction of severe and moderate malnutrition among under-5 children by one half of 1990 levels;
   (d) Universal access to safe drinking water and to sanitary means of excreta disposal;
   (e) Universal access to basic education and completion of primary education by at least 80 per cent of primary school age children;
   (f) Reduction of the adult illiteracy rate to at least half its 1990 level (the appropriate age group to be determined in each country), with emphasis on female literacy;
   (g) Protection of children in especially difficult circumstances, particularly in situations of armed conflicts.
6. A list of more detailed sectoral goals and specific actions which would enable the attainment of the above major goals can be found in the appendix to this Plan of Action. These goals will first need to be adapted to the specific realities of each country in terms of phasing, priorities, standards and availability of resources. The strategies for the achievement of the goals may also vary from country to country. Some countries may wish to add other development goals that are uniquely important and relevant for their specific country situation. Such adaptation of the goals is of crucial importance to ensure their technical validity, logistical feasibility, financial affordability and to secure political commitment and broad public support for their achievement.

II. SPECIFIC ACTIONS FOR CHILD SURVIVAL, PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT

7. Within the context of these overall goals, there are promising opportunities for eradicating or virtually eliminating age-old diseases that have afflicted tens of millions of children for centuries and for improving the quality of life of generations to come. Achievement of these goals would also contribute to lowering population growth, as sustained decline in child death rates to-

the level at which parents become confident that their first children will survive is, with some time lag, followed by even greater reduction in child births. To seize these opportunities the Declaration of the World Summit for Children calls for specific actions in the following areas:

The Convention on the Rights of the Child

8. The Convention on the Rights of the Child, unanimously adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, contains a comprehensive set of international legal norms for the protection and well-being of children. All Governments are urged to promote earliest possible ratification of the Convention, where it has not already been ratified. Every possible effort should be made in all countries to disseminate the Convention and, wherever it has already been ratified, to promote its implementation and monitoring.

Child health

9. Preventable childhood diseases — such as measles, polio, tetanus, tuberculosis, whooping cough and diphtheria, against which there are effective vaccines, and diarrhoeal diseases, pneumonia and other acute respiratory infections that can be prevented or effectively treated through relatively low-cost remedies — are currently responsible for the great majority of the world's 14 million deaths of children under 5 years and disability of millions more every year. Effective action can and must be taken to combat these diseases by strengthening primary health care and basic health services in all countries.
10. Besides these readily preventable or treatable diseases and some others, such as malaria, which have proved more difficult to combat, children today are faced with the new spectre of the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) pandemic. In the most seriously affected countries HIV/AIDS threatens to offset the gains of child survival programmes. It is already a major drain on limited public health resources needed to support other priority health services. The consequences of HIV/AIDS go well beyond the suffering and death of the infected child and include risks and stigmas that affect parents and siblings and the tragedy of "AIDS orphans". There is an urgent need to ensure that programmes for the prevention and treatment of AIDS, including research on possible vaccines and cures that can be applicable in all countries and situations, and massive information and education campaigns, receive a high priority for both national action and international co-operation.
11. A major factor affecting the health of children as well as adults is the availability of clean water and safe sanitation. These are not only essential for human health and well-being, but also contribute greatly to the emancipation of women from the drudgery that has a pernicious impact on children, especially girls. Progress in child health is unlikely to be sustained if one third of the developing world's children remain without access to clean drinking water and half of them without adequate sanitary facilities.
12. Based on the experience of the past decade, including the many innovations in simple, low-cost techniques and technologies to provide clean water and safe sanitary facilities in rural areas and urban shanty towns, it is now desirable as well as feasible, through concerted national action and international co-operation, to aim at providing all the world's children with universal access to safe drinking water and sanitary means of excreta disposal by the year 2000. An important related benefit of universal access to water and sanitation combined with health education will be the control of many water-borne diseases, among them elimination of guinea-worm dis-

ease (dracunculiasis), which currently afflicts some 10 million children in parts of Africa and Asia.

Food and nutrition

13. Hunger and malnutrition in their different forms contribute to about half of the deaths of young children. More than 20 million children suffer from severe malnutrition, 150 million are underweight and 350 million women suffer from nutritional anaemia. Improved nutrition requires (a) adequate household food security, (b) healthy environment and control of infections and (c) adequate maternal and child care. With the right policies, appropriate institutional arrangements and political priority, the world is now in a position to feed all the world's children and to overcome the worst forms of malnutrition, i.e. drastically to reduce diseases that contribute to malnutrition, to halve protein-energy malnutrition, virtually to eliminate vitamin A deficiency and iodine deficiency disorders and to reduce nutritional anaemia significantly.
14. For the young child and the pregnant woman, provision of adequate food during pregnancy and lactation; promotion, protection and support of breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices, including frequent feeding; growth monitoring with appropriate follow-up actions; and nutritional surveillance are the most essential needs. As the child grows older, and for the adult population as a whole, an adequate diet is an obvious human priority. Meeting this need requires employment and income-generating opportunities, dissemination of knowledge and supporting services to increase food production and distribution. These are key actions within broader national strategies to combat hunger and malnutrition.

Role of women, maternal health and family planning

15. Women in their various roles play a critical part in the well-being of children. The enhancement of the status of women and their equal access to education, training, credit and other extension services constitute a valuable contribution to a nation's social and economic development. Efforts for the enhancement of women's status and their role in development must begin with the girl child. Equal opportunity should be provided for the girl child to benefit from the health, nutrition, education and other basic services to enable her to grow to her full potential.
16. Maternal health, nutrition and education are important for the survival and well-being of women in their own right and are key determinants of the health and well-being of the child in early infancy. The causes of the high rates of infant mortality, especially neonatal mortality, are linked to untimely pregnancies, low birth weight and pre-term births, unsafe delivery, neonatal tetanus, high fertility rates, etc. These are also major risk factors for maternal mortality claiming the lives of 500,000 young women each year and resulting in ill-health and suffering for many millions more. To redress this tragedy, special attention should be given to health, nutrition and education of women.
17. All couples should have access to information on the importance of responsible planning of family size and the many advantages of child spacing to avoid pregnancies that are too early, too late, too many or too frequent. Prenatal care, clean delivery, access to referral facilities in complicated cases, tetanus toxoid vaccination and prevention of anaemia and other nutritional deficiencies during pregnancy are other important interventions to ensure safe motherhood and a healthy start in life for the newborn. There is an

added benefit of promoting maternal and child health programmes and family planning together in that, acting synergistically, these activities help accelerate the reduction of both mortality and fertility rates, and contribute more to lowering rates of population growth than either type of activity alone.

Role of the family

18. The family has the primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children from infancy to adolescence. Introduction of children to the culture, values and norms of their society begins in the family. For the full and harmonious development of their personality, children should grow up in a family environment, in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding. Accordingly, all institutions of society should respect and support the efforts of parents and other care-givers to nurture and care for children in a family environment.
19. Every effort should be made to prevent the separation of children from their families. Whenever children are separated from their family owing to *force majeure* or in their own best interest, arrangements should be made for appropriate alternative family care or institutional placement, due regard being paid to the desirability of continuity in a child's upbringing in his or her own cultural milieu. Extended families, relatives and community institutions should be given support to help to meet the special needs of orphaned, displaced and abandoned children. Efforts must be made to ensure that no child is treated as an outcast from society.

Basic education and literacy

20. The international community, including virtually all the Governments of the world, have undertaken a commitment at the World Conference on Education for All at Jomtien, Thailand, to increase significantly educational opportunity for over 100 million children and nearly 1 billion adults, two thirds of them girls and women, who at present have no access to basic education and literacy. In fulfilment of that commitment, specific measures must be adopted for (a) the expansion of early childhood development activities, (b) universal access to basic education, including completion of primary education or equivalent learning achievement by at least 80 per cent of the relevant school age children with emphasis on reducing the current disparities between boys and girls, (c) the reduction of adult illiteracy by half, with emphasis on female literacy, (d) vocational training and preparation for employment and (e) increased acquisition of knowledge, skills and values through all educational channels, including modern and traditional communication media, to improve the quality of life of children and families.
21. Besides its intrinsic value for human development and improving the quality of life, progress in education and literacy can contribute significantly to improvement in maternal and child health, in protection of the environment and in sustainable development. As such, investment in basic education must be accorded a high priority in national action as well as international co-operation.

Children in especially difficult circumstances

22. Millions of children around the world live under especially difficult circumstances — as orphans and street children, as refugees or displaced persons, as victims of war and natural and man-made disasters, including such perils

as exposure to radiation and dangerous chemicals, as children of migrant workers and other socially disadvantaged groups, as child workers or youth trapped in the bondage of prostitution, sexual abuse and other forms of exploitation, as disabled children and juvenile delinquents and as victims of apartheid and foreign occupation. Such children deserve special attention, protection and assistance from their families and communities and as part of national efforts and international co-operation.

23. More than 100 million children are engaged in employment, often heavy and hazardous and in contravention of international conventions which provide for their protection from economic exploitation and from performing work that interferes with their education and is harmful to their health and full development. With this in mind, all States should work to end such child-labour practices and see how the conditions and circumstances of children in legitimate employment can be protected to provide adequate opportunity for their healthy upbringing and development.
24. Drug abuse has emerged as a global menace to very large numbers of young people and, increasingly, children — including permanent damage incurred in the pre-natal stages of life. Concerted action is needed by Governments and intergovernmental agencies to combat illicit production, supply, demand, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances to counter this tragedy. Equally important is community action and education, which are vitally needed to curb both the supply of and the demand for illicit drugs. Tobacco and alcohol abuse are also problems requiring action, especially preventive measures and education among young people.

Protection of children during armed conflicts

25. Children need special protection in situations of armed conflict. Recent examples in which countries and opposing factions have agreed to suspend hostilities and adopt special measures such as "corridors of peace" to allow relief supplies to reach women and children and "days of tranquillity" to vaccinate and to provide other health services for children and their families in areas of conflict need to be applied in all such situations. Resolution of a conflict need not be a prerequisite for measures explicitly to protect children and their families to ensure their continuing access to food, medical care and basic services, to deal with trauma resulting from violence and to exempt them from other direct consequences of violence and hostilities. To build the foundation for a peaceful world where violence and war will cease to be acceptable means for settling disputes and conflicts, children's education should inculcate the values of peace, tolerance, understanding and dialogue.

Children and the environment

26. Children have the greatest stake in the preservation of the environment and its judicious management for sustainable development as their survival and development depends on it. The child survival and development goals proposed for the 1990s in this Plan of Action seek to improve the environment by combating disease and malnutrition and promoting education. These contribute to lowering death rates as well as birth rates, improved social services, better use of natural resources and, ultimately, to the breaking of the vicious cycle of poverty and environmental degradation.
27. With their relatively low use of capital resources and high reliance on social mobilization, community participation and appropriate technology, the

programmes designed to reach the child-related goals of the 1990s are highly compatible with and supportive of environmental protection. The goals for the survival, protection and development of children as enunciated in this Plan of Action should therefore be seen as helping to protect and preserve the environment. Still more action is needed, of course, to prevent the degradation of the environment in both the industrialized and the developing countries, through changes in the wasteful consumption patterns of the affluent and by helping to meet the necessities of survival and development of the poor. Programmes for children that not only help to meet their basic needs but which inculcate in them respect for the natural environment with the diversity of life that it sustains and its beauty and resourcefulness that enhance the quality of human life, must figure prominently in the world's environmental agenda.

Alleviation of poverty and revitalization of economic growth

28. Achievement of child-related goals in the areas of health, nutrition, education, etc., will contribute much to alleviating the worst manifestations of poverty. But much more will need to be done to ensure that a solid economic base is established to meet and sustain the goals for long-term child survival, protection and development.
29. As affirmed by the international community at the eighteenth special session of the United Nations General Assembly (April 1990), a most important challenge for the 1990s is the need for revitalization of economic growth and social development in the developing countries and to address together the problems of abject poverty and hunger that continue to afflict far too many people in the world. As the most vulnerable segment of human society, children have a particular stake in sustained economic growth and alleviation of poverty, without which their well-being cannot be secured.
30. To foster a favourable international economic environment, it is essential to continue to give urgent attention to an early, broad and durable solution to the external debt problems facing developing debtor countries; to mobilize external and domestic resources to meet the increasing needs for development finance of developing countries; to take steps to ensure that the problem of the net transfer of resources from developing to developed countries does not continue in the 1990s and that its impact is effectively addressed; to create a more open and equitable trading system to facilitate the diversification and modernization of the economies of developing countries, particularly those that are commodity-dependent; and to make available substantial concessional resources, particularly for the least developed countries.
31. In all of these efforts the fulfilment of the basic needs of children must receive a high priority. Every possible opportunity should be explored to ensure that programmes benefiting children, women and other vulnerable groups are protected in times of structural adjustments and other economic restructuring. For example, as countries reduce military expenditures, part of the resources released should be channelled to programmes for social and economic development, including those benefiting children. Debt-relief schemes could be formulated in ways that the budget reallocations and renewed economic growth made possible through such schemes would benefit programmes for children. Debt relief for children, including debt swaps for investment in social development programmes, should be considered by debtors and creditors. The international community, including private-sector

creditors, are urged to work with developing countries and relevant agencies to support debt relief for children. To match increased efforts by developing countries themselves, the donor countries and international institutions should consider targetting more development assistance to primary health care, basic education, low-cost water and sanitation programmes and other interventions specifically endorsed in the Summit Declaration and this Plan of Action.

32. The international community has recognized the need to stop and reverse the increasing marginalization of the least developed countries, including most countries of sub-Saharan Africa and many land-locked and island countries that face special development problems. These countries will require additional long-term international support to complement their own national efforts to meet the pressing needs of children over the 1990s.

III. FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS AND MONITORING

33. Effective implementation of this Plan of Action will require concerted national action and international co-operation. As affirmed in the Declaration, such action and co-operation must be guided by the principle of a "first call for children" — a principle that the essential needs of children should be given high priority in the allocation of resources, in bad times as well as in good times, at national and international as well as at family levels.

Action at the national level

34. It is particularly important that the child-specific actions proposed must be pursued as part of strengthening broader national development programmes combining revitalized economic growth, poverty reduction, human resource development and environmental protection. Such programmes must also strengthen community organizations, inculcate civic responsibility and be sensitive to the cultural heritage and social values which support progress without alienation of the younger generation. With these broad objectives in mind, we commit ourselves and our Governments to the following actions:

(i) All Governments are urged to prepare, before the end of 1991, national programmes of action to implement the commitments undertaken in the World Summit Declaration and this Plan of Action. National Governments should encourage and assist provincial and local governments as well as NGOs, the private sector and civic groups to prepare their own programmes of action to help to implement the goals and objectives included in the Declaration and this Plan of Action;

(ii) Each country is encouraged to re-examine in the context of its national plans, programmes and policies, how it might accord higher priority to programmes for the well-being of children in general, and for meeting over the 1990s the major goals for child survival, development and protection as enumerated in the World Summit Declaration and this Plan of Action;

(iii) Each country is urged to re-examine in the context of its particular national situation, its current national budget, and in the case of donor countries, their development assistance budgets, to ensure that programmes aimed at the achievement of goals for the survival, protection and development of children will have a priority when resources are allocated. Every effort should be made to ensure that such programmes are protected in times of economic austerity and structural adjustments;

(iv) Families, communities, local governments, NGOs, social, cultural, religious, business and other institutions, including the mass media, are encouraged to play an active role in support of the goals enunciated in this Plan of Action. The experience of the 1980s shows that it is only through the mobilization of all sectors of society, including those that traditionally did not consider child survival, protection and development as their major focus, that significant progress can be achieved in these areas. All forms of social mobilization, including the effective use of the great potential of the new information and communication capacity of the world, should be marshalled to convey to all families the knowledge and skills required for dramatically improving the situation of children;

(v) Each country should establish appropriate mechanisms for the regular and timely collection, analysis and publication of data required to monitor relevant social indicators relating to the well-being of children — such as neonatal, infant and under-5 mortality rates, maternal mortality and fertility rates, nutritional levels, immunization coverage, morbidity rates of diseases of public health importance, school enrolment and achievement and literacy rates — which record the progress being made towards the goals set forth in this Plan of Action and corresponding national plans of action. Statistics should be disaggregated by gender to ensure that any inequitable impact of programmes on girls and women can be monitored and corrected. It is particularly important that mechanisms be established to alert policy makers quickly to any adverse trends to enable timely corrective action. Indicators of human development should be periodically reviewed by national leaders and decision makers, as is currently done with indicators of economic development;

(vi) Each country is urged to re-examine its current arrangements for responding to natural disasters and man-made calamities which often afflict women and children the hardest. Countries that do not have adequate contingency planning for disaster preparedness are urged to establish such plans, seeking support from appropriate international institutions where necessary;

(vii) Progress towards the goals endorsed in the Summit Declaration and this Plan of Action could be further accelerated, and solutions to many other major problems confronting children and families greatly facilitated, through further research and development. Governments, industry and academic institutions are requested to increase their efforts in both basic and operational research, aimed at new technical and technological breakthroughs, more effective social mobilization and better delivery of existing social services. Prime examples of the areas in which research is urgently needed include, in the field of health, improved vaccination technologies, malaria, AIDS, respiratory infections, diarrhoeal diseases, nutritional deficiencies, tuberculosis, family planning and care of the newborn. Similarly there are important research needs in the area of early child development, basic education, hygiene and sanitation, and in coping with the trauma facing children who are uprooted from their families and face other particularly difficult circumstances. Such research should involve collaboration among institutions in both the developing and the industrialized countries of the world.

Action at the international level

35. Action at the community and national levels is, of course, of critical importance in meeting the goals and aspirations for children and development. However, many developing countries, particularly the least developed and the most indebted ones, will need substantial international co-operation to enable them to participate effectively in the world-wide effort for child survival, protection and development. Accordingly, the following specific actions are proposed to create an enabling international environment for the implementation of this Plan of Action.

(i) All international development agencies — multilateral, bilateral and non-governmental — are urged to examine how they can contribute to the achievement of the goals and strategies enunciated in the Declaration and this Plan of Action as part of more general attention to human development in the 1990s. They are requested to report their plans and programmes to their respective governing bodies before the end of 1991 and periodically thereafter;

(ii) All regional institutions, including regional political and economic organizations, are requested to include consideration of the Declaration and this Plan of Action on the agenda of their meetings, including at the highest political level, with a view to developing agreements for mutual collaboration for implementation and ongoing monitoring;

(iii) Full co-operation and collaboration of all relevant United Nations agencies and organs as well as other international institutions is requested in ensuring the achievement of the goals and objectives of the national plans envisaged in the World Summit Declaration and Plan of Action. The governing bodies of all concerned agencies are requested to ensure that within their mandates the fullest possible support is given by these agencies for the achievement of these goals;

(iv) The assistance of the United Nations is requested to institute appropriate mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of this Plan of Action, using existing expertise of the relevant United Nations statistical offices, the specialized agencies, UNICEF and other United Nations organs. Furthermore, the Secretary-General of the United Nations is requested to arrange for a mid-decade review, at all appropriate levels, of the progress being made towards implementing the commitments of the Declaration and Plan of Action;

(v) As the world's lead agency for children, the United Nations Children's Fund is requested to prepare, in close collaboration with the relevant specialized agencies and other United Nations organs, a consolidated analysis of the plans and actions undertaken by individual countries and the international community in support of the child-related development goals for the 1990s. The governing bodies of the relevant specialized agencies and United Nations organs are requested to include a periodic review of the implementation of the Declaration and this Plan of Action at their regular sessions and to keep the General Assembly of the United Nations, through the Economic and Social Council, fully informed of progress to date and additional action required during the decade ahead.

36. The goals enunciated in the Declaration and this Plan of Action are ambitious and the commitments required to implement them will demand consistent and extraordinary effort on the part of all concerned. Fortunately, the

necessary knowledge and techniques for reaching most of the goals already exist. The financial resources required are modest in relation to the great achievements that beckon. And the most essential factor — the provision to families of the information and services necessary to protect their children — is now within reach in every country and for virtually every community. There is no cause which merits a higher priority than the protection and development of children, on whom the survival, stability and advancement of all nations — and, indeed, of human civilization — depends. Full implementation of the Declaration and this Plan of Action must therefore be accorded a high priority for national action and international co-operation.

Appendix

GOALS FOR CHILDREN AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE 1990s

The following goals have been formulated through extensive consultation in various international forums attended by virtually all Governments, the relevant United Nations agencies including the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and a large number of NGOs. These goals are recommended for implementation by all countries where they are applicable, with appropriate adaptation to the specific situation of each country in terms of phasing, standards, priorities and availability of resources, with respect for cultural, religious and social traditions. Additional goals that are particularly relevant to a country's specific situation should be added in its national plan of action.

I. MAJOR GOALS FOR CHILD SURVIVAL, DEVELOPMENT AND PROTECTION

(a) Between 1990 and the year 2000, reduction of infant and under-5 child mortality rate by one third or to 50 and 70 per 1,000 live births respectively, whichever is less;

(b) Between 1990 and the year 2000, reduction of maternal mortality rate by half;

(c) Between 1990 and the year 2000, reduction of severe and moderate malnutrition among under-5 children by half;

(d) Universal access to safe drinking water and to sanitary means of excreta disposal;

(e) By the year 2000, universal access to basic education and completion of primary education by at least 80 per cent of primary school-age children;

(f) Reduction of the adult illiteracy rate (the appropriate age group to be determined in each country) to at least half its 1990 level with emphasis on female literacy;

(g) Improved protection of children in especially difficult circumstances.

II. SUPPORTING/SECTORAL GOALS

A. ***Women's health and education***

(i) Special attention to the health and nutrition of the female child and to pregnant and lactating women;

(ii) Access by all couples to information and services to prevent pregnancies that are too early, too closely spaced, too late or too many;

(iii) Access by all pregnant women to pre-natal care, trained attendants during childbirth and referral facilities for high-risk pregnancies and obstetric emergencies;

(iv) Universal access to primary education with special emphasis for girls and accelerated literacy programmes for women.

B. ***Nutrition***

(i) Reduction in severe as well as moderate malnutrition among under-5 children by half of 1990 levels;

(ii) Reduction of the rate of low birth weight (2.5 kg or less) to less than 10 per cent;

(iii) Reduction of iron deficiency anaemia in women by one third of the 1990 levels;

(iv) Virtual elimination of iodine deficiency disorders;

(v) Virtual elimination of vitamin A deficiency and its consequences, including blindness;

(vi) Empowerment of all women to breastfeed their children exclusively for four to six months and to continue breastfeeding, with complementary food, well into the second year;

(vii) Growth promotion and its regular monitoring to be institutionalized in all countries by the end of the 1990s;

(viii) Dissemination of knowledge and supporting services to increase food production to ensure household food security.

C. ***Child health***

(i) Global eradication of poliomyelitis by the year 2000;

(ii) Elimination of neonatal tetanus by 1995;

(iii) Reduction by 95 per cent in measles deaths and reduction by 90 per cent of measles cases compared to pre-immunization levels by 1995, as a major step to the global eradication of measles in the longer run;

(iv) Maintenance of a high level of immunization coverage (at least 90 per cent of children under one year of age by the year 2000) against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, measles, poliomyelitis, tuberculosis and against tetanus for women of child-bearing age;

(v) Reduction by 50 per cent in the deaths due to diarrhoea in children under the age of five years and 25 per cent reduction in the diarrhoea incidence rate;

(vi) Reduction by one third in the deaths due to acute respiratory infections in children under five years.

D. ***Water and sanitation***

(i) Universal access to safe drinking water;

(ii) Universal access to sanitary means of excreta disposal;

(iii) Elimination of guinea-worm disease (dracunculiasis) by the year 2000.

E. ***Basic education***

(i) Expansion of early childhood development activities, including appropriate low-cost family- and community-based interventions;

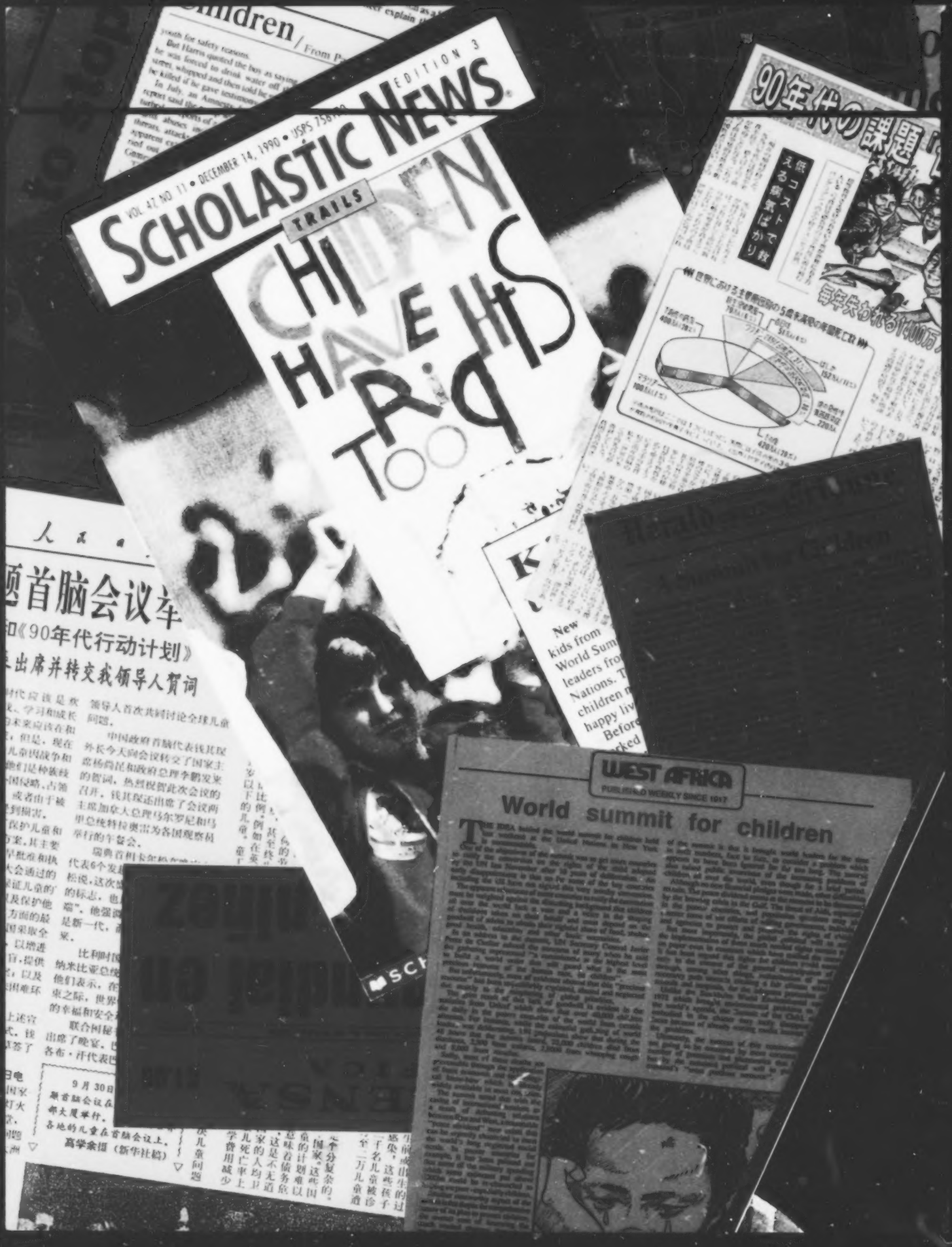
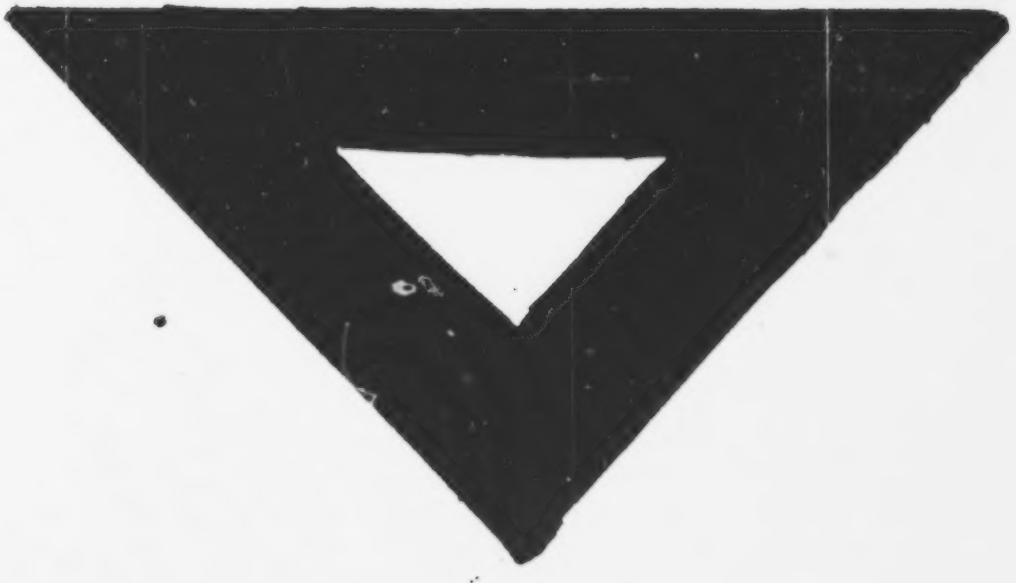
(ii) Universal access to basic education, and achievement of primary education by at least 80 per cent of primary school-age children through formal schooling or non-formal education of comparable learning standard, with emphasis on reducing the current disparities between boys and girls;

(iii) Reduction of the adult illiteracy rate (the appropriate age group to be determined in each country) to at least half its 1990 level, with emphasis on female literacy;

(iv) Increased acquisition by individuals and families of the knowledge, skills and values required for better living, made available through all educational channels, including the mass media, other forms of modern and traditional communication and social action, with effectiveness measured in terms of behavioural change.

F. ***Children in difficult circumstances***

Provide improved protection of children in especially difficult circumstances and tackle the root causes leading to such situations.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